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THE WORLD'S BEST NEWS & FACTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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2023 Summer of Reading

July 7/July 14, 2023
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Making sense of the world

THE WEEK Junior

THE BEST MAGAZINE FOR CURIOUS KIDS

BEACH or POOL?

Which do YOU think is better? Have your say in our big debate p8

SUMMER FUN! BONUS PAGES INSIDE

WOW! William O. Douglas had the longest tenure of any Supreme Court justice, serving from 1939 to 1975.

The US Supreme Court building in Washington, DC

How many have served?

The top judge of the US Supreme Court is called the chief justice. The other eight judges are called associate justices. There have been 17 chief justices and 104 associate justices since the court was established in 1789. The average length of service is about 16 years. (The nine current justices are shown above.)

Supreme Court announces decisions

The US Supreme Court released several rulings at the close of its 2022–2023 term in late June. The decisions made by America's most powerful court of law will affect millions of people.

What is the Supreme Court?

The Supreme Court is made up of nine judges (called justices) who listen to both sides of a legal case and make a final decision. Their job is to uphold the US Constitution (the nation's highest law). Cases make their way to the Supreme Court after they are tried in lower state or federal courts. The Supreme Court's annual term begins on the first Monday in October and ends in June or July of the next year, when most rulings are announced. Each case is decided by a majority vote.

What were two of the cases decided this term?

One major case involved Native American water rights. The Navajo Nation, a group of 250,000 people, had sued the federal government, seeking access to water from the Colorado River. On June 22, the court ruled 5–4 that the government was not required to provide access. In another major decision, announced on June 23, the justices voted 8–1 to uphold a policy put in place by President Joe Biden's administration to address illegal immigration (when people from other countries enter the US without legal approval). This policy, which affects about 11 million people living in the US, sets guidelines to determine who should be arrested and sent back to their home countries. Texas and Louisiana sued the US government over the policy, arguing that it prevents immigration authorities from doing their jobs.

How did people react?

In the water case, Buu Nygren, leader of the Navajo Nation, said he was disappointed with the ruling but would continue to work to secure water access for the group's members. "My job as the president of the Navajo Nation is to represent and protect the Navajo people, our land, and our future," he said in a statement. In the immigration case, government officials and human rights advocates said they were pleased with the court's decision while Texas Governor Greg Abbott called it "outrageous." Abbott wrote on social media that Texas will continue to turn back immigrants who are trying to enter the state illegally.

What other decisions are expected?

When *The Week Junior* went to press on June 27, additional court decisions were anticipated, including rulings in two closely watched cases. One is about affirmative action, which is a set of procedures created to give people of all races a fair chance of being admitted to college. Lawsuits against Harvard College, in Massachusetts, and the University of North Carolina argued that their affirmative action policies discriminate against Asian American students. The second case concerns Biden's plan to reduce or eliminate the debts of millions of Americans who took out loans to pay for college. Six states—Nebraska, Missouri, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, and South Carolina—and two individuals sued to stop the plan, saying Biden had overstepped his authority. If the court rules against the plan, more than $400 billion in loans will have to be repaid.

What will happen next?

Rulings in the remaining cases were expected within days of *The Week Junior*'s press date. When the Supreme Court makes a decision, it is final and all other courts in the US must follow it. The rulings go into effect immediately, and there is no appeals process. Similar cases can, however, be brought before the court in the future to try to achieve a different outcome.

Deep-sea search ends in tragedy

A four-day search ended on June 22 when the wreckage of a missing submersible (remotely controlled underwater vehicle) was found on the floor of the Atlantic Ocean, about 900 miles off the coast of Canada. The vehicle, called Titan, was carrying five people to see the shipwreck of the Titanic, nearly 13,000 feet deep. Water pressure at that depth equals the weight of the Eiffel Tower. Evidence indicates that the pressure caused Titan to implode, killing everyone aboard.

The passengers included two experienced explorers, a father and his teenage son, and Stockton Rush, founder of OceanGate, the American company that built Titan. "This is a very sad time for the entire explorer community and for each of the family members of those lost at sea," an OceanGate spokesperson said.

Crews and ships from several countries assisted with the search. A remotely operated vehicle found debris from Titan about 1,600 feet from the Titanic, a massive ship that sank on its first voyage in April 1912, killing more than 1,500 people on board.

DID YOU KNOW?
About 1.8 billion people around the world are Muslim, making Islam the second-largest religion after Christianity.

Muslims make a holy journey

About 2 million Muslims have arrived in Saudi Arabia for a yearly pilgrimage (journey to a holy site) called the Hajj. Muslims are followers of the religion of Islam, and the Hajj is an important part of their faith. This year's attendance is the highest since 2019. For the past three years, the number of pilgrims has been strictly limited due to the pandemic.

The Hajj is one of the five pillars of Islam, and all Muslims who are physically and financially able are expected to make the pilgrimage at least once in their lives. Many people save money for years in order to afford the trip.

Pilgrims travel from around the world and gather in the city of Mecca, which is considered the birthplace of the prophet Muhammed, the founder of Islam, and the religion's holiest city. The Hajj occurs between the eighth and 13th days of Dhul-Hijjah, the 12th and last month in the Islamic lunar calendar. This year's Hajj is taking place from June 26 to July 1.

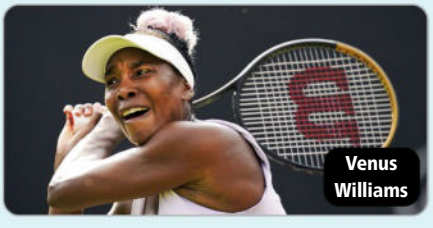
The pilgrimage involves many rituals. One is for pilgrims to put on plain clothes before they reach the city. Once they do this, they enter a sacred state known as Ihram. Another ritual is to circle the Kaaba, a 50-foot-tall stone structure in the Grand Mosque (place of worship), seven times. Pilgrims also spend a day praying at Mount Mercy, where Muhammed delivered his last sermon.

"My soul is soaring with joy," Farah Hamidi, age 59, told Al Jazeera news as she prepared to travel from Syria to Mecca for the Hajj. "This journey is the dream of every Muslim in this world."

IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

A POOCH-FILLED PARTY

More than 200 dogs came to Robert Moore's 100th birthday party in California. The pups walked in a pet parade and gave Moore, a lifelong dog lover, lots of tail wags and kisses. "My dear dad deserves it," his daughter said.



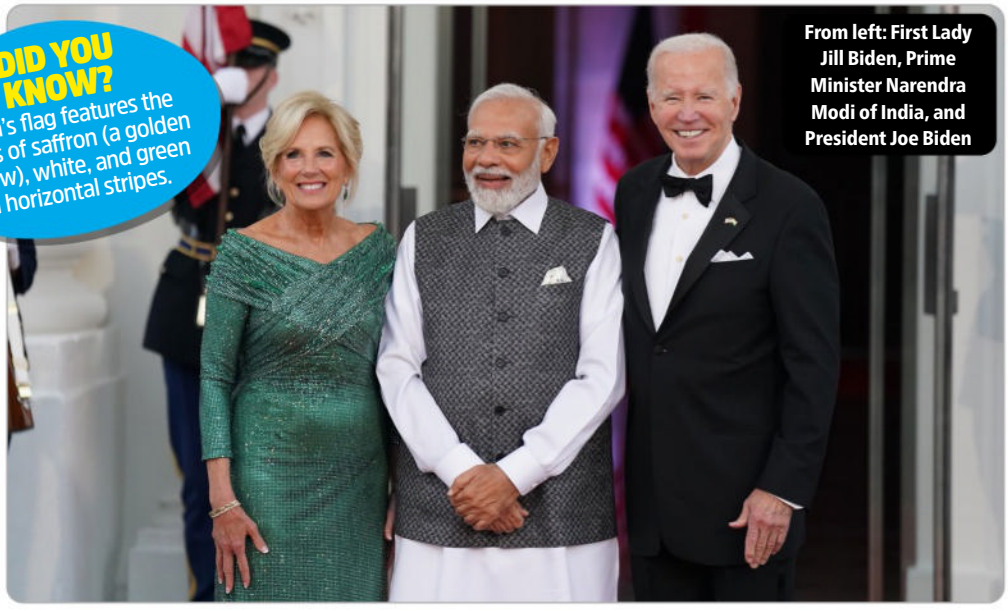
MAKING A COMEBACK

After a series of injuries and setbacks, US tennis icon Venus Williams, age 43, achieved a major upset in the UK, beating a player in the top 50 for the first time since 2019. Williams is a seven-time Grand Slam champion and, in 2002, became the first Black player to be number one in the world.

DANCING FOR A RECORD

A group of Connecticut high school students danced their way to a world record—and raised more than $10,000 for charity. The team formed a line, cranked up the music, and did a dance called the conga 64 times around their school's track, a distance of nearly 16 miles. The money will go to an adult care center.

ON THE COVER: GETTY IMAGES (5); VALERIE SCHULTZ/SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL ZOO; ON THIS PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (2); TWITTER/WERATEDOGS; AP; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES; FRED SCHILLING, COLLECTION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES; SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES



From left: First Lady Jill Biden, Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India, and President Joe Biden

DID YOU KNOW?
India's flag features the colors of saffron (a golden yellow), white, and green in horizontal stripes.

A plant-based chef

The state dinner's meatless menu was created by guest chef Nina Curtis. She is a leader in the food industry, having focused on preparing healthy and delicious plant-based meals for more than 20 years. She said she worked on the menu with First Lady Jill Biden for a few months and was thrilled with how the meal came out.

India's leader is guest at state dinner

President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden welcomed the prime minister of India, Narendra Modi, to an official state dinner at the White House on June 22. The event was attended by about 400 people and had a goal of strengthening relations between the two countries. Some people said it was wrong to host the dinner because Modi has been accused of human rights violations.

What is a state dinner?

A state dinner is a formal event expressing goodwill—a way for a US President to honor a leader who is visiting from another country. At the event, the two leaders exchange toasts in a show of diplomacy. US Presidents have hosted more than 200 state dinners since the tradition began in 1874, and this was the third one hosted by Biden.

What were some of the dinner's details?

The evening was designed to bring together the nations' two cultures. Modi is a vegetarian, so the menu included many plant-based courses. The foods that were served included stuffed mushrooms and crispy cakes made from millet, a grain commonly found in India. Dessert was strawberry shortcake, a popular US treat, infused with cardamom, a spice often used in Indian food. Tables were decorated with saffron flowers, which are found throughout India.

What made the dinner complicated?

India is a democracy that guarantees the right to free speech, but Modi has been accused of using India's courts and police to punish people who speak out against him, including imprisoning them. Many people also say he has created policies that discriminate against India's religious minorities. At the same time, there are advantages to having his nation as a partner. India could help the US reduce global conflicts and fight climate change. As the world's most populated country, India could also help boost the US economy.

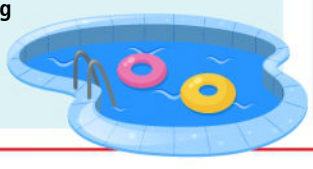
What did Modi and Biden say?

At a press conference before the dinner, Modi answered questions from two reporters. This was notable because Modi had never answered questions from journalists during his nine years in office. He denied all charges that have been made against him. Biden said the shared values of democracy between the US and India could allow democracy to expand "around the world."

WORD OF THE WEEK

POOL

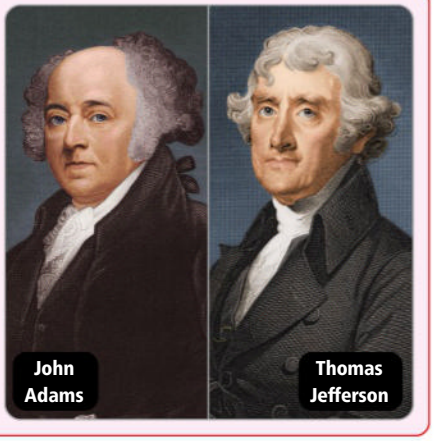
Any pool of water, including a swimming pool, takes its name from the Old English word *pol*. It belongs to a family of watery words that includes the Old English *pudd* ("ditch"), which gave us both "puddle" and "poodle," a dog that likes to splash about in water.



THE WEEK IN HISTORY

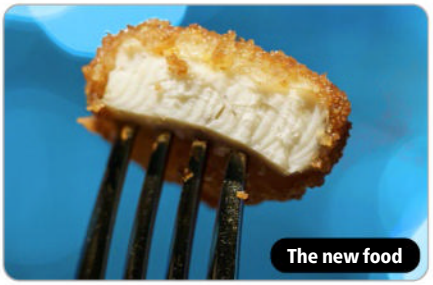
July 4, 1826
Former Presidents die on Fourth of July

On July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of US independence, former Presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson died. The two men helped form the US and were rivals who ran against each other for President. Adams was the second US President from 1797 to 1801, and Jefferson was the third from 1801 to 1809. They later became friends, exchanging letters for years before they died.



John Adams

Thomas Jefferson


The new food

Lab-grown chicken approved

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA, agency that regulates food) announced that it has given its approval for products grown in a lab from chicken cells to be produced and sold. The meat, created by Good Meat and Upside Food, is made from live animal cells and grown in large stainless steel tanks. Previously, the FDA (US agency that monitors food) had cleared the products as safe to eat. The chicken will first be available in restaurants.

Renée Fleming

Kennedy Center Honors named

The recipients of the 46th Kennedy Center Honors, awards given for lifetime artistic achievement, have been announced. Comedian Billy Crystal, opera singer Renée Fleming, singer-songwriter Barry Gibb, actress and rapper Queen Latifah, and singer Dionne Warwick will be recognized for their significant contributions to cultural life in the US at an event on December 3.

The stamp

Postal tribute to civil rights hero

The US Postal Service unveiled a new stamp to honor civil rights leader John Lewis (1940–2020). He spent more than 30 years in the House of Representatives (one half of Congress), advocating for equality and justice for all Americans. The stamp, which features a photo of Lewis taken by Marco Grob in 2013, represents "the conscience of our Congress," said Hakeem Jeffries, a top House leader.

WOW! More than 2,100 animals from nearly 400 species live at the Smithsonian's National Zoo in Washington, DC.

Zahra, the baby western lowland gorilla

Baby boom at the National Zoo

Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute in Washington, DC, has announced the births of baby animals from four diverse species. The births included meerkats, a western lowland gorilla, black-footed ferrets, and Panamanian golden frogs. Zoo officials expressed excitement about the new arrivals, which could help ensure the survival of these species.

For the first time in 16 years, meerkats were born at the zoo. A 5-year-old named Sadie is now a first-time mother to three tiny babies, each weighing about one ounce. Zoo staff described the babies as energetic, sociable, and curious.

The zoo also welcomed a western lowland gorilla. The population of these primates in the wild has decreased by about 60% in the past 25 years, scientists said, so the birth of the baby to parents Calaya and Baraka was a cause for celebration. An online public vote determined the baby's name, Zahra. It means "beautiful flower" in Swahili.

A Panamanian golden frog and baby

At the Conservation Biology Institute, a black-footed ferret named Hickory gave birth to a litter of six kits with father Talo. Black-footed ferrets are the only ferret species native to North America. They were thought to be extinct (no longer exist), but the species has made a comeback due to programs like the one at the Smithsonian.

A colony of 400 baby Panamanian golden frogs, which are a species of toad, hatched at the zoo. The species is critically endangered because of a fungus that kills them in the wild.

Keeper Sara Hasenstab said the zoo is "over the moon" about the toadlets, which are each the size of a grain of rice. They could help researchers learn how to protect wild populations.

Zoo officials said the babies are doing well. Although the toadlets are not yet on exhibit, visitors can see Zahra in the Great Ape House and the meerkats at the Small Mammal House. Hickory and her kits are on a livestream at tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Ferrets.

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Seal pup climbs onto surfers' boards at California beach" *UPI*

BECKY MALINSKY/SMITHSONIAN'S NATIONAL ZOO AND CONSERVATION BIOLOGY INSTITUTE; SMITHSONIAN'S NATIONAL ZOO AND CONSERVATION BIOLOGY INSTITUTE; GETTY IMAGES (3); USPS; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (5)

A fin whale off Iceland

Iceland
Whale hunt suspended

The government has suspended Iceland's annual whale hunt until the end of August. The country's whale-hunting season usually runs from mid-June to mid-September, when people hunt fin whales for their meat, most of which is sent to Japan. However, a recent report said that the centuries-old practice doesn't follow the rules of Iceland's Animal Welfare Act. Animal rights groups applauded the decision.

Kyriakos Mitsotakis with supporters

Greece
Prime minister wins reelection

On June 26, Kyriakos Mitsotakis was reelected prime minister of Greece after decisively winning a second round of elections. (Mitsotakis' New Democracy Party won the first election in May but did not get enough seats to form the government by itself.) He defeated his main opponent, Alexis Tsipras from the Syriza party. Mitsotakis, age 55, promised to reduce the nation's debt and increase workers' wages.

Jair Bolsonaro in 2022

Brasilia, Brazil
Trial of ex-president begins

A trial involving former president Jair Bolsonaro has begun. Bolsonaro—who lost the 2022 election to Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, known as Lula—is accused of abusing his power and making false statements about the credibility of Brazil's election system. Bolsonaro denies the charges. If he is found guilty, he could be banned from running for office for eight years.

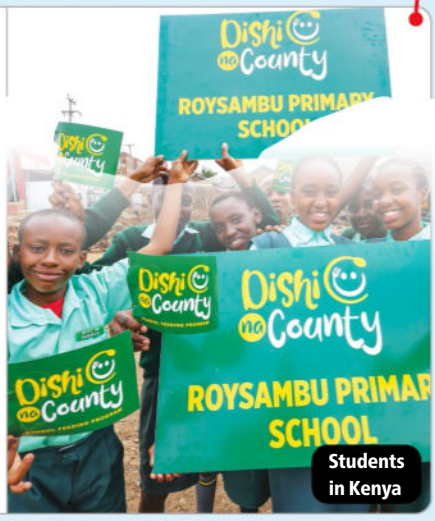
Canary Islands, Spain
Migrants are rescued

Emergency crews rescued at least 227 migrants (people who have left their home country in search of a better life) from inflatable boats near the Canary Islands on June 22. Many migrants travel from Africa to the islands to reach mainland Europe. The Western Africa–Atlantic migration route is one of the world's most dangerous.

Migrants after the rescue

Nairobi, Kenya
Free meals at school

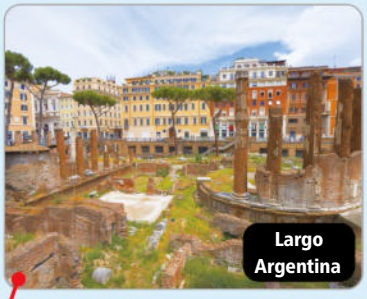
Africa's largest school meal program will launch in Nairobi, Kenya's capital, on August 28. Each day, 400,000 lunches will be made for children at 225 elementary schools and preschools. Ten new kitchens will be built, and 3,500 people will be employed to provide the meals. Organizers hope the plan to offer free nutritious meals in school will help eliminate shame about hunger and improve students' attendance and academic performance.



Students in Kenya

GETTY IMAGES (3); ALAMY; FOOD 4 EDUCATION; REUTERS; SHUTTERSTOCK (3); AP

Around the world


Largo Argentina

Rome, Italy
Ancient site opens to public

An ancient square where Roman emperor Julius Caesar was assassinated (killed for political reasons) has opened to the public for the first time. The square, named Largo Argentina, holds the ruins of four temples dating back as far as the fourth century BCE, as well as the theater where Caesar was killed.

Wagner Group soldiers survey an area.

Russia
Brief military uprising brought to an end

A revolt by a group of Russian soldiers against the country's military leadership has ended, leaving President Vladimir Putin weakened and the direction of his war in Ukraine uncertain. The soldiers, called the Wagner Group, captured Russian military facilities on June 24 and marched toward Moscow before ending the uprising. Wagner Group leader Yevgeny Prigozhin said he was protesting Russian military leadership failures in Ukraine.

The alpacas

Tokyo, Japan
Alpacas stroll the city

A pair of South American alpacas have become celebrities in an area of central Tokyo called Little Paris, according to Reuters news agency. The alpacas, named Akane and Satsuki, are taken for a walk every day. They trot down the streets and munch on grass in local parks. At Alpaca Fureai Land, an indoor petting zoo, visitors can pay about $7 for 30 minutes to hug the animals and stroke their fur.

Rice fields in Nepal

Nepal
Scientist works with farmers to save rice

A UK scientist has helped farmers in Nepal save a type of rice from no longer existing. Jumli Marshi rice is eaten by millions of people in India, Nepal, and Pakistan. In recent years, the rice has been threatened by a disease called blast fungus. Scientist John Witcombe worked with Nepali farmers to breed three new rice varieties that are resistant to the disease.

Baghdad, Iraq
Ancient stone writing tablet returned

A 2,800-year-old stone tablet has been returned to Iraq by Italian officials. The tablet is carved with cuneiform symbols, a writing system that originated in Iraq thousands of years ago and is believed to be the world's oldest form of writing. Police found the tablet in Italy in the 1980s, but it's not known how it got there. Iraq is still missing thousands of ancient objects that were stolen and is working to recover more of them.

The tablet

Are swimming pools better than the beach?

Some people like swimming in the comfort of a pool, but others prefer the ocean.

What you need to know

- **According to US Census data, swimming is the most popular recreational activity for children between the ages of 7 and 17.**
- **In the US, more than 90 million people ages 16 and over swim in lakes, rivers, and oceans each year.**
- **More than 400 million people visit US beaches annually.**
- **Some estimates have stated that there are about 10 million private pools and about 300,000 public pools across the US.**

On hot summer days, what's better than cooling off with a refreshing swim? People have been swimming for fun since early humans took a dip more than 100,000 years ago. In the US, swimming pools first appeared in the late 1800s and became popular in the 1900s, thanks to better methods for keeping the water clean. People soon enjoyed the convenience of splashing around in backyards, community centers, and gyms. But people who prefer the beach say nothing comes close to squishing your toes in the sand, jumping in the waves, and feeling the sea breeze. What do you think? Are swimming pools better than the beach?

Yes—they're convenient and calm

Pools are calmer and quieter than the beach. There are no waves to knock you down, and you don't have to worry about wind, tides, or sea creatures. You also don't get covered in sand that's scratchy and hard to get off. In a swimming pool, you can play in the water, float on fun inflatable rafts, and take a break on comfortable lounge chairs. Besides, not everyone lives near a beach. Even if you don't have a pool at home, it's easier to find a public swimming pool or one at a gym near your home than it is to get to the ocean. If you have access to an indoor pool, you can use it year-round, rain or shine.

No—nothing beats nature

When you go to the beach, you experience nature up close. On the sand, you can scout for shells, build sandcastles, and spot crabs, sea glass, and other beautiful things. In the water, you might see plants, fish, and other cool creatures. Pools are full of chemicals like chlorine, which are added to keep the water clean and can irritate your eyes, skin, and hair. Salt water, on the other hand, has been shown to have healing effects on muscles and skin. Besides, not everyone can access a swimming pool, which often requires a membership or entrance fee. Public beaches are for everyone to enjoy and, in many cases, free.

YES Three reasons why swimming pools are better than the beach

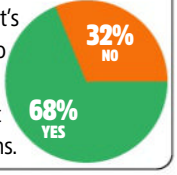
1. **Swimming pools are calmer, with no waves, tides, wind, sand, or sea animals to deal with.**
2. **You can float, lounge, and play in a pool in ways you can't in the ocean.**
3. **Many people don't live near a beach. It's easier to find a nearby pool, and if it's indoors, you can swim all year.**

NO Three reasons why swimming pools are not better than the beach

1. **The beach is wild and beautiful and lets you experience nature up close.**
2. **Swimming in salt water is good for your body, while swimming in pool chemicals can be bad for skin, hair, and eyes.**
3. **People often have to pay to use pools, but in many cases, public beaches and the ocean are free for everyone.**

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked you if there should be live-action remakes. About two thirds of you said yes, it's a good idea to make new versions of hit animated films.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote YES if you think swimming pools are better than the beach or NO if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

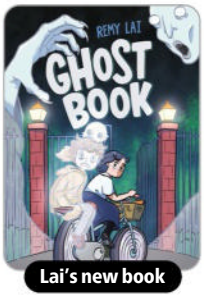
The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.

GETTY IMAGES

Telling a new tale

Author Remy Lai drew on her childhood to create her first fantasy book.

Remy Lai's childhood passion for writing and drawing led her to a successful career creating graphic novels. She is the author and illustrator of the best-sellers *Pawcasso* and *Pie in the Sky*. Those books, like many of her other titles, are realistic fiction.



Lai's new book

In August, Lai will release her first fantasy graphic novel. *Ghost Book* follows a young girl named July who can see ghosts and befriends one.

Lai told *The Week Junior* that writing fantasy for the first time gave her a feeling of freedom. "It allowed me to imagine things like ghosts," she said. "I wanted to do something different where I could draw cool houses and creatures."

Born in Indonesia and raised in Singapore, Lai grew up reading comics. She particularly enjoyed manga (Japanese comics), and she would try to draw her own images of what she saw. Her love for children's literature began in fourth grade when she discovered books by Roald Dahl, such as *Matilda* and *The BFG*. "It wasn't something I had ever read before," she said.

Lai said *Ghost Book* was inspired by her childhood in Singapore, where she was surrounded by Chinese culture. She celebrated the East Asian festival of Hungry Ghost Month, which is believed to be when ghosts visit the living world. "What I grew up with, I put my own spin on," Lai said.

Lai said she tries not to limit herself, and she encourages young people to do the same. "Don't compare your journey to other people's," she said. "Have fun with whatever you're doing."

2023 Summer of Reading The Week Junior

Remy Lai

WOW! Sales of comic books in the US reached nearly $2.1 billion in 2021, an increase of 62% from the year before.

A major tennis win

Professional wheelchair tennis star Tokito Oda became the youngest male Grand Slam winner in any discipline in modern tennis history after he won the men's wheelchair final at the French Open on June 10 at age 17. Oda, who is from Japan, has used a wheelchair since age 9 and began playing tennis a year later. To win a Grand Slam, a player must win all four major championships, including the French Open, in the same calendar season. After defeating Alfie Hewett of Great Britain, Oda said it was "the happiest day of my career."

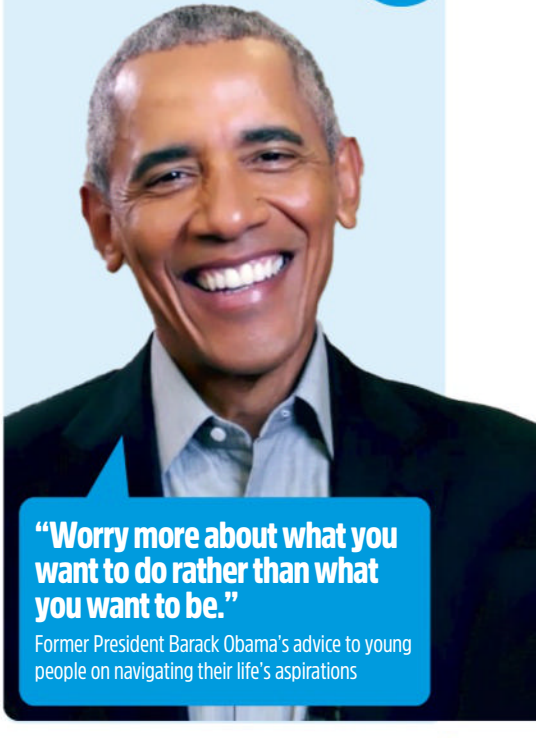
Tokito Oda

Astrud Gilberto in 1973

Singer remembered

Astrud Gilberto, singer of one of the most recorded songs in history, died on June 5 at age 83. "The Girl from Ipanema" was released in 1964 and became a global sensation. It made Gilberto, who was born in Brazil, and her ex-husband João Gilberto stars and brought attention to bossa nova, the Brazilian music genre they pioneered. The song, which was the first one Gilberto recorded, won top music awards and is still popular today. It has been featured in more than 50 films. In 2002, Gilberto was inducted into the International Latin Music Hall of Fame.

OVERHEARD



"Worry more about what you want to do rather than what you want to be."

Former President Barack Obama's advice to young people on navigating their life's aspirations

COURTESY OF REMY LAI; GETTY IMAGES (3)

DID YOU KNOW?
The unusually shaped heads of hammerhead sharks allow them to pin stingrays, their favorite meal, to the seafloor.
A scalloped hammerhead shark

Studying whale sharks

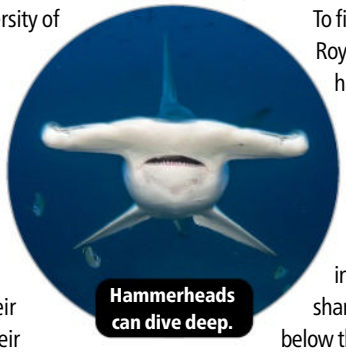
In order to learn about whale sharks, the world's biggest fish, researchers in Australia have spent years scraping parasites (species that live on another species) off them. After a while, the fish began to slow down as the divers approached, leading the team to conclude that the sharks enjoyed the scrubbing.

A whale shark

Sharks can hold their breath

Scalloped hammerhead sharks hold their breath to keep their bodies warm while they're diving into cold water, a study has found.

Researchers from the University of Hawaii knew that scalloped hammerhead sharks do deep dives at night. They assumed that the sharks dove to hunt, since they had found deep-water squid in the stomachs of some sharks. However, hammerheads are cold-blooded, which means their temperature is controlled by their environment rather than their bodies. Getting very cold affects how well the animals' brains and muscles can work. With temperatures in the deep ocean as low as 41° F, the scientists were puzzled as to how the sharks could do these deep dives and come back unharmed.


Hammerheads can dive deep.

To find out more, scientist Mark Royer and his team captured three hammerhead sharks. They attached instruments to the sharks' fins in order to measure the temperature of the water and the sharks' speed and movements. The instruments showed that the sharks dove to about 2,600 feet below the surface. However, the animals' body temperature didn't drop until they started to return to the surface of the water. The scientists think they might be able to explain why.

Like most fish, sharks get their oxygen from water, which washes through slits called gills on the side of their head. Inside the gills, lots of blood vessels absorb oxygen from the water. Because blood temperature affects body temperature, the gills are the area in which the shark is most likely to lose heat. Royer said that if the deep-diving sharks didn't get cold, they must have closed their gills. In other words, they were holding their breath as they dove, just like humans or seals do when they swim underwater.

Video footage of a shark swimming more than 3,000 feet deep with closed gills seems to confirm the theory. Other scientists want to study the question more closely, however, because fish's bodies aren't usually adapted to hold their breath. Royer called the finding a "complete surprise."

PLACE OF THE WEEK

Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Ohio

Nestled between the cities of Cleveland and Akron, Ohio, this 33,000-acre expanse has lush forests and farmlands that follow the Cuyahoga River. Though it was designated a national park in the year 2000, humans have lived on and used the land for about 13,000 years. Today, visitors flock to the 60-foot Brandywine Falls or enjoy beautiful rock formations in an area called "The Ledges." Despite being close to urban areas, the park is teeming with wild creatures such as red and gray foxes, bats, herons, Nashville warblers, and pearl crescent butterflies.

A blue heron at the park

A western lowland gorilla

MMM... DELICIOUS! Gorillas are mainly plant eaters, but some also feed on ants and termites.

A feeder to aid gorilla instincts

In the wild, gorillas are excellent foragers, searching around for fruits, vegetables, bamboo shoots, and other favorite foods. But in zoos, gorillas are usually fed on a regular schedule in a specific place. Engineering students from the Georgia Institute of Technology have now invented a machine that can help zoos create a more natural environment for the apes.

The ForageFeeder automatically spreads food throughout an enclosure at random times during the day. Hanging 15 feet in the air, the feeder drops foods gorillas like, such as carrots, sweet potatoes, and turnips, into a tray. The food is then launched from the feeder in a circular motion, scattering it as far as 30 feet away.

Scientists have been testing the machine at Zoo Atlanta in Georgia since late 2022. It took the gorillas a few months to get used to the machine, but researchers are already seeing more foraging behavior similar to that of wild apes. They believe the ForageFeeder can also be used with other species in captivity to encourage physical activity and natural feeding behavior.

Animal of the week: Brush-tailed bettong

Also called woylies or yalgiri, these marsupials (mammals that raise their young in a pouch) are critically endangered. Nearly two years after being reintroduced to southern Australia, the tiny, kangaroo-like creatures are thriving.

- **LIFE SPAN:** 4 to 6 years in the wild
- **HABITAT:** Forests and shrublands in Australia
- **SIZE:** 3 pounds; 21 to 31 inches from head to tail
- **DIET:** Insects, fungus, and seeds
- **FUN FACT:** Bettongs don't drink water, but they are very fond of peanut butter.

Good week / Bad week

Platypus

Four of these egg-laying mammals have been reintroduced to the Royal National Park near Sydney, Australia, where they were last seen more than 50 years ago. Experts will track the animals for the next two years.

Yangtze giant softshell turtle

The largest freshwater turtle in the world will soon be extinct (no longer exist). Only two male turtles of the species survive, and the last female has now been found dead. Hunting and habitat loss caused the species' decline.

Enter *The Week Junior*'s Nature Photo Contest!

Do you love taking photos of flowers, trees, and wildlife? If so, now is your chance to use your creativity, curiosity, and skills to enter *The Week Junior*'s Nature Photo Contest. The entry form for 8- to 10-year-olds is at tinyurl.com/TWJUS-2023PhotoContest-8-10 and for 11- to 14-year-olds at tinyurl.com/TWJUS-2023PhotoContest-11-14. Winning entries will be featured in a September 2023 issue of the magazine. See official rules at theweekjunior.com/photocontestrules.

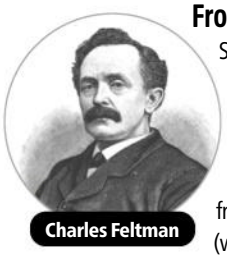
The deadline to enter is July 31.

GETTY IMAGES (3); COURTESY TIM MCCORMACK; ALAMY; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (5)

The tasty history of

The humble hot dog has been enjoyed for hundreds of years.

Americans eat about 20 billion hot dogs every year—including 150 million on the Fourth of July. How did they get to be so popular?



Charles Feltman

From Europe to Coney Island

Since the late 1400s, two cities in Europe have claimed to be the birthplace of the hot dog: Frankfurt, Germany (where they got the nickname frankfurters), and Vienna, Austria (where they were called wieners). These early hot dogs were pork sausages without a bun. German immigrants brought them to the US in the 1800s and called them "dachshund sausages." (US cartoonist T.A. Dorgan, unsure of how to spell "dachshund" in a caption with one of his drawings, was later thought to have come up with the name "hot dog.") In the 1870s, German immigrant Charles Feltman opened a stand in Coney Island, New York, and served hot dogs to beachgoers in a long sliced bun.

Nathan's Famous

Hot dogs become a hit

Harry Stevens, a British immigrant, started a company in 1887 that supplied professional baseball teams and stadiums with snacks, including hot dogs. At an international fair called the Chicago World's Columbian Exposition in 1893, thousands of people had the opportunity to enjoy the portable, inexpensive food for the first time. In 1916, Nathan Handwerker, an immigrant from Poland, opened a Coney Island stand to compete with Feltman's. His establishment sold hot dogs for a nickel each, and by the 1920s, Nathan's Famous was selling about 75,000 hot dogs every summer weekend.

FUN FACTS
About 68% of Americans say they put mustard on their hot dogs. Ketchup is a close second at 61%.

DID YOU KNOW?
In 2022, Los Angeles was the top hot dog–consuming city, followed by New York City and Dallas.

Wow! Hot dog world records

Most eaten in one minute

At a 2022 competition in Tampa, Florida, Miki Sudo of the US (shown at right) gobbled six dogs in 60 seconds.

World's longest

The longest dog, made in Paraguay in 2011, stretched more than 668 feet. After the record was recorded, the 264-pound frank in a giant bun was cut into 2,000 pieces for the public to enjoy.

GETTY IMAGES (4); FELTMAN'S OF CONEY ISLAND; COURTESY OF GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS (2); KEVIN SCOTT RAMOS/GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS; THE TOKYO DOG

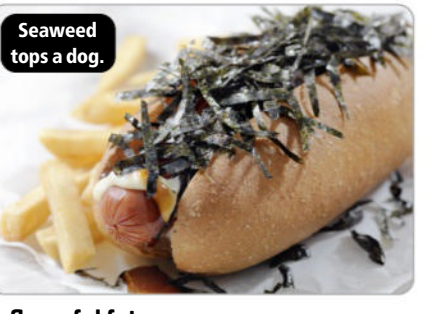
an American classic

ON A MISSION
Hot dogs traveled to space aboard the Apollo 11 mission to the Moon in 1969.

A classic Chicago dog

Differences coast to coast

As the popularity of hot dogs spread across the US, toppings evolved and regional differences emerged. In New York, a classic dog is topped with yellow mustard and steamed onions. In Chicago, dogs are loaded with yellow mustard, dark green relish, chopped raw onion, pickle spears, pickled peppers, and tomato slices on a poppy seed bun. In Michigan, "coneys" are topped with meaty chili sauce, mustard, and onions. In the Southwest, dogs are wrapped in bacon and covered with pinto beans, grilled onions, green peppers, tomatoes, relish, salsa, mayonnaise, mustard, and shredded cheese. In California, hot dogs can be found topped with avocado or its mashed form, guacamole.



Seaweed tops a dog.

A flavorful future

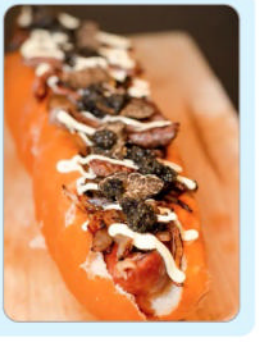
In the US, the hot dog market is expected to grow from $19 billion in 2022 to $23 billion by 2029. Growth is also predicted worldwide, particularly in China, Japan, and Latin America. US restaurants are tapping into diners' nostalgia for hot dogs and serving the comfort food with updated twists like pretzel buns and toppings ranging from grilled peaches to Flamin' Hot Cheetos. Chefs are importing Asian influences, such as seaweed, fish flakes, and kimchi. The fondness for frankfurters has even inspired snacks, including hot dog–flavored ice pops and potato chips.

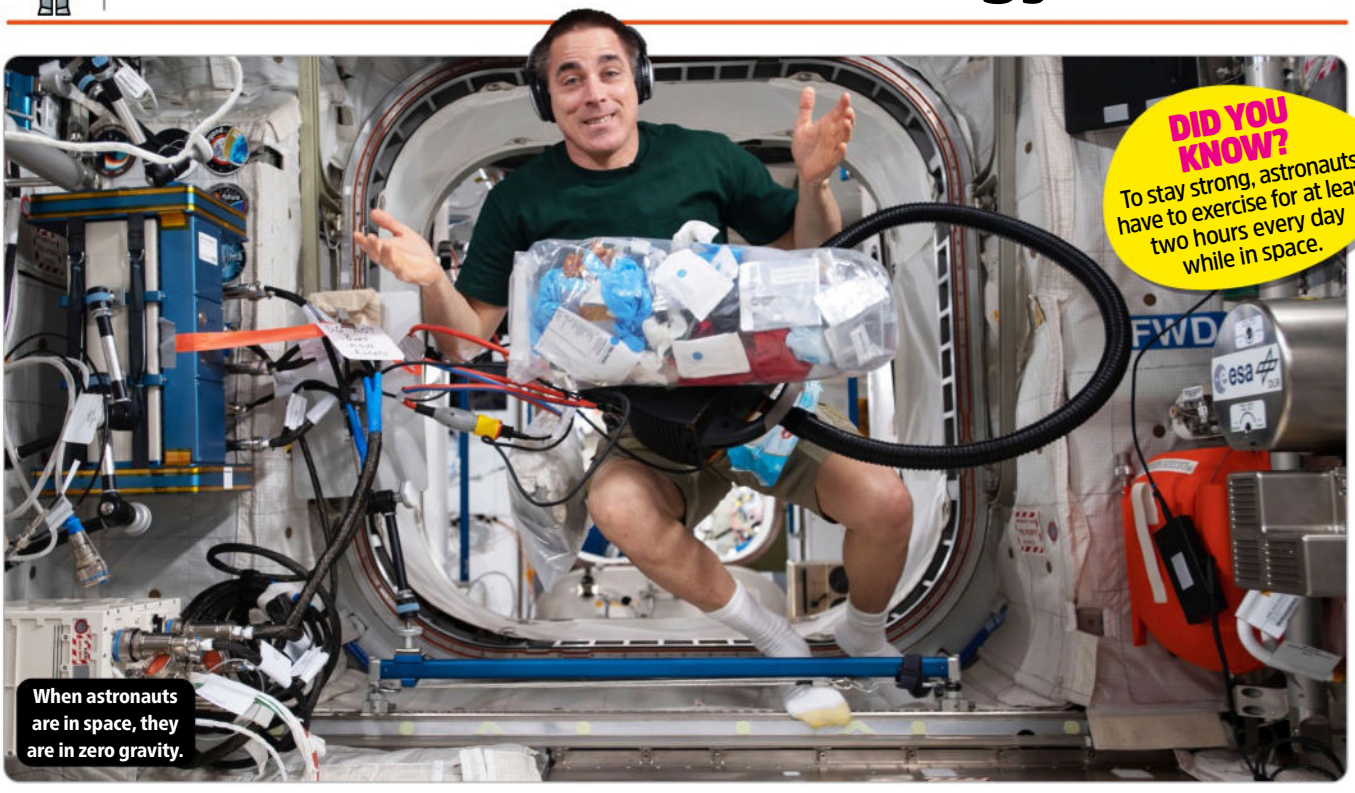
World's largest

Bigger is better, according to Gorilla Tango Novelty Meats in Chicago. They entered the record books in 2011 with a hot dog topped with ketchup and mustard that weighed more than 7 pounds.

Most expensive

The Tokyo Dog food truck based in Seattle, Washington, broke the world record in 2014 for priciest hot dog. The $169 "Juuni Ban" was topped with Japanese mayonnaise, maitake mushrooms, and caviar.





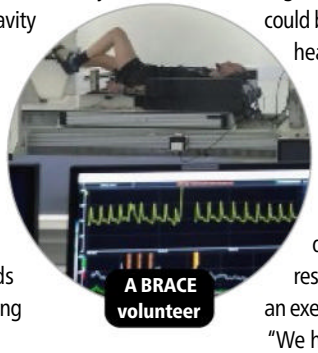
When astronauts are in space, they are in zero gravity.

DID YOU KNOW?
To stay strong, astronauts have to exercise for at least two hours every day while in space.

Studying the effects of space travel

Twelve people are spending 60 days lying in bed at a clinic in France. But they're not there to relax—they're volunteers in a study that could help astronauts who spend a long time in space.

The human body is adapted to the effects of gravity here on Earth. In space, where there is no gravity, astronauts' bodies change. The study, called Bed Rest with Artificial Gravity and Cycling Exercise (BRACE), explores the effects of zero gravity on the human body and how negative effects can be counteracted. Astronauts in zero gravity lose muscle mass as well as mineral density in their bones, and their bodily fluids shift upward to their heads, adding pressure on their eyes.



A BRACE volunteer

BRACE participants must keep at least one shoulder touching the mattress at all times, even while eating, showering, or using the toilet. The beds are tilted, putting the men's feet six inches higher than their heads. This position re-creates the effects of zero gravity.

The 12 volunteers are all men between ages 20 and 45 who are in good physical shape. They're divided into three groups. One group will not do any exercise. Another group will regularly exercise from a lying position with an exercise cycle.

The third group will also cycle while lying down, but as they do so, they will be spun around in a device that simulates artificial gravity. This will cause blood to flow to their feet. The researchers conducting the study hope artificial gravity could be used to keep astronauts healthier on future space missions.

BRACE is not the first study to use bed rest to simulate zero gravity. A 2019 study of bed rest that also placed astronauts in a device to imitate artificial gravity did not produce encouraging results. That project did not feature an exercise component, however.

"We hope to understand the added value of artificial gravity to the fitness routine astronauts follow," said Angelique Van Ombergen of the European Space Agency, one of the organizations working on this study. "It could become an effective solution for a healthier body during long-duration space missions." To gather further data, another group of 12 volunteers will participate in this same research project in early 2024.

NASA's twins study

Mark (left) and Scott Kelly are both astronauts.

Identical twins share the same DNA (chemical carrying all the information about a living thing). That makes them ideal subjects for studying the effects of environmental factors like zero gravity. After American astronaut Scott Kelly returned from a year in space, NASA (the US space agency) studied him in comparison to his identical twin, Mark, who stayed on Earth. Scientists closely examined the effect of Scott's lengthy voyage on his genes.

One result related to Scott's telomeres (special sections on the end of DNA strands), which lengthened while he was in space but returned to normal within hours of his return. In addition, a flu vaccine Scott received in space worked as effectively as it would have on Earth.

Fossils of ancient sea creature identified

A scientist stumbled on the bones of a prehistoric marine reptile tucked away in a museum drawer. David Martill found part of a backbone at Abingdon County Hall Museum in the UK.

The bone was one of four fossils (impressions or traces of ancient plants and animals preserved in rock) that have been identified as belonging to a pliosaur from about 150 million years ago. These huge creatures swam in the seas that covered southern England in the Jurassic period, between 201 and 145 million years ago.

The pliosaur bones

The fossils were originally found at a nearby farm and put in storage. A student of Martill's, Megan Jacobs, was at the museum with him. When Martill opened the drawer, there was a backbone the size of a dinner plate, she said. They found three others but weren't sure if they had come from a dinosaur. A scan confirmed that all the fossils were from the largest pliosaur ever found. It was more than 40 feet long, with a long head and jaws, like a crocodile, and strong flippers that helped it hide deep in the sea before attacking prey.

Martill said pliosaurs were fearsome creatures that could bite other large predators, such as ichthyosaurs and plesiosaurs, in half. "They had a massive skull with huge protruding teeth like daggers—as big if not bigger than a Tyrannosaurus rex and certainly more powerful," he said.

FUN FACT
Scientists studying a megalosaurus bone in 1626 thought it was a leg of a giant human.

An artist's rendering of a pliosaur

Many people are allergic to chicken eggs.

New eggs for people who are allergic

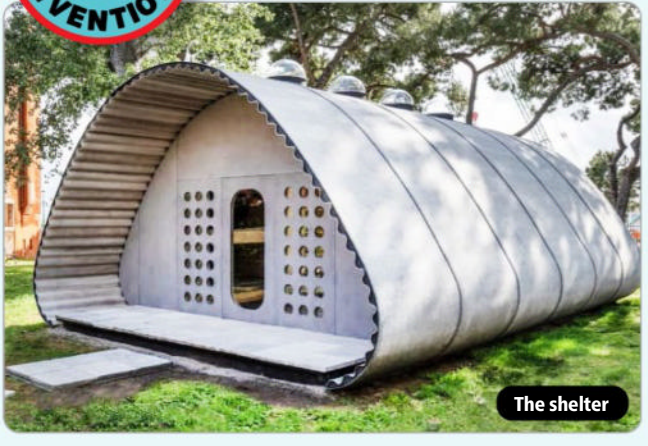
Scientists created a chicken egg that could allow people who are allergic to eggs to enjoy them safely. Eggs are one of the most common food allergies in kids. They're found in many foods such as pasta, bread, and ice cream, and they're also in non-food items, such as vaccines.

Most kids with egg allergies react to a specific protein (a substance in all living things) in eggs called ovomucoid (OVM). Researchers in Japan used a technology called genome editing to remove that protein in chickens. A genome is all the genetic material of a living thing, which carries information about its body and characteristics. The chickens with the modified genome laid eggs without OVM.

The modified eggs are less allergenic than regular eggs. But because any amount of OVM can cause an allergic reaction, the team will do further testing to ensure they are entirely non-allergenic.

AMAZING INVENTION

A safe shelter made of concrete



The shelter

A small, sturdy concrete structure could provide safe shelter for people who have been displaced by war, natural disasters such as floods, or other emergencies. Created by a British architect and a sustainable building company, the prototype (early model) is 290 square feet and made of materials that can be recycled.

Construction materials include curved concrete sheets for the walls and recycled materials for the base. The shelter has skylights for natural light, three beds, storage, a table, and a bathroom.

SHUTTERSTOCK; GETTY IMAGES; MEGAN JACOBS; CHIARA BECATTINI/HOLCIM; ON LEFT PAGE: NASA; ROBERT MARKOWITZ; EUROPEAN SPACE STATION

Photos of the week

Beautiful view
A mosque in Indonesia resembles a lotus flower from above.

READER PHOTO

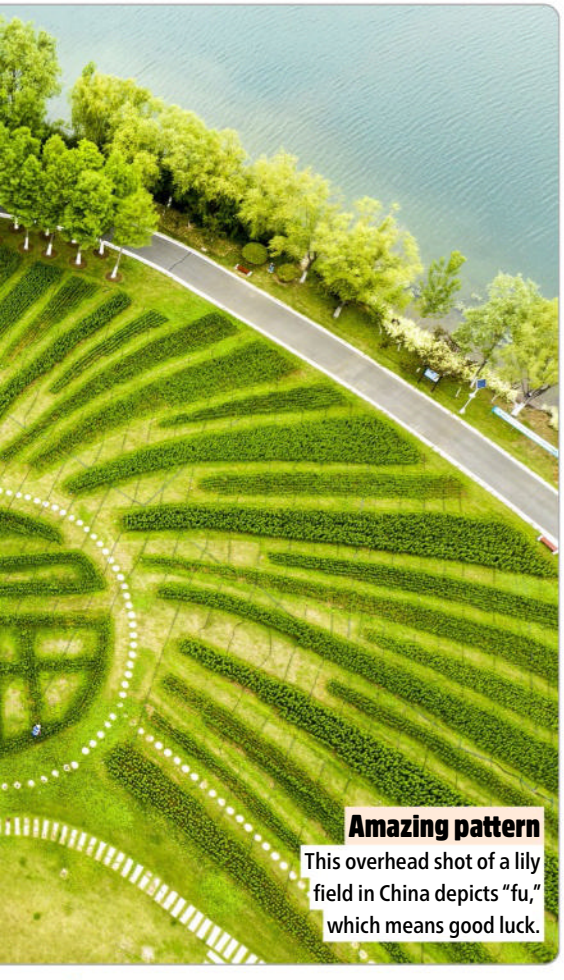
You dew you
Twyla, 11, of California snapped this close-up of apples in her yard.

SCHUM AND SWAHA; TWYLA; GETTY IMAGES (4)

Photos of the week

Up in the air
A dragon balloon floats high during a parade in Poland.

Pedal power
Riders pass through a lush landscape in Switzerland during a bicycle race.



Amazing pattern
This overhead shot of a lily field in China depicts "fu," which means good luck.

READER PHOTO

Feed me
Sohum, 13, and Swaha, 11, of Virginia took this image of a pitcher plant.

WOW! Women's soccer star Kristine Lilly played 354 matches for the US national team, the most of any male or female player in history.

The US team

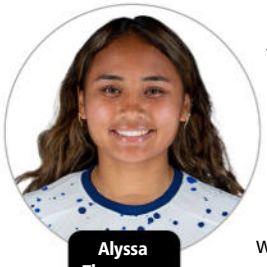
Miniature legends

Soccer stars Megan Rapinoe of the US, Yuki Nagasato of Japan, Asisat Oshoala of Nigeria, and Sam Kerr of Australia have been turned into minifigures for Lego's new Icons of Play set. The toys are part of a Lego campaign to encourage girls to "play without boundaries."

US names women's World Cup team

On June 21, the US Women's National Team (USWNT) revealed its roster for the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup, the most important tournament in international soccer. The team has 23 players, and 22 of them come from the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL). The only non-NWSL player is Lindsey Horan, an American who plays for France's Olympique Lyon.

The World Cup is run by FIFA (the Federation Internationale de Football Association, the global governing body for soccer) and takes place every four years. This year, it will be hosted by New Zealand and Australia and begins on July 20. The Americans will enter the tournament as the number one team in the world. They won the World Cup in 2015 and 2019, and they are looking to become the first women's or men's team to win it three times in a row.


Alyssa Thompson

A total of 32 teams participate in the World Cup, and they are broken into eight groups of four. The US is grouped with the Netherlands, Portugal, and Vietnam. Teams face off against each member of their group, and the two teams with the most points after three games advance to the next round.

Three veterans that made the team are Megan Rapinoe, Alex Morgan, and Kelly O'Hara. They will each be playing in their fourth World Cup. One big star who did not make the roster is current US captain Becky Sauerbrunn, who is recovering from an injury.

Fourteen players on the roster will be appearing in a World Cup for the first time. One of them is Alyssa Thompson, age 18. She is the first teen to represent the US on a World Cup team since 1995. Another notable team member is Savannah DeMelo. She is "uncapped," which means she has never played in a match for the USWNT. She is the second uncapped player to ever make a US Women's World Cup team.

The NWSL players will take a break from their usual duties on June 26 and head to training camp. On July 9, the USWNT will play Wales in a match to help prepare for the tournament. The US team will play its first World Cup match against Vietnam on July 22 (the night of July 21 in the US).

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

The Cincinnati Reds racked up their 12th straight victory with an 11–10 win over the Atlanta Braves on June 23. In the game, Reds rookie shortstop Elly De La Cruz, who made his Major League debut on June 6, hit a single, double, triple, and home run, which is known as "hitting for the cycle." De La Cruz is the third player since 1901 to accomplish that feat within his first 15 games.

Elly De La Cruz

GOLF

On June 25, Ruoning Yin of China won the Women's PGA Championship, one of the five major tournaments in women's golf. She is the second woman from China to win a major.

TRACK AND FIELD

At the NYC Grand Prix on June 24, American sprinter Noah Lyles won the 200-meter race in 19.83 seconds. It was the 34th time he has run a 200 in less than 20 seconds, tying a record set by Jamaican legend Usain Bolt.

DID YOU KNOW?
The University of Southern California has won 12 College World Series titles, the most of any team.

The team celebrates.

LSU wins College World Series

On June 26, the baseball team from Louisiana State University (LSU) won the Men's College World Series (MCWS) by defeating the University of Florida, 18–4, in the last game of a three-game series. LSU now has seven MCWS titles.

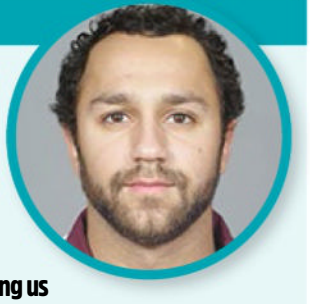
The MCWS tournament began in early June with 64 teams. Games were played in Omaha, Nebraska, where the College World Series has taken place since 1950. Florida was the second-seeded (ranked) team while LSU was number five.

In Game 1 on June 24, LSU won, 4–3, in 11 innings. Two of LSU's key players were Cade Beloso, who hit a solo home run in the top of the 11th inning, and starting pitcher Ty Floyd, who struck out 17 Florida batters.

Game 2 the next day was unforgettable. LSU had a 3–1 lead at the end of the second inning, but Florida came back and scored 23 more runs during the game for a record-setting 24–4 win. They scored the most runs by a team in a MCWS game, had the first-ever grand slam in an MCWS championship series, and had the largest margin of victory in a MCWS finals game.

LSU bounced back in Game 3. Although Florida's Wyatt Langford hit a two-run homer in the first inning, LSU led 10–2 by the end of the fourth. LSU pitcher Thatcher Hurd kept Florida's offense in check, and the team didn't get a second hit until the seventh inning, after Hurd exited the contest. Three LSU players, including star outfielder Dylan Crews, each had four hits in the win. Crews and LSU pitcher Paul Skenes are expected to be top picks in the upcoming Major League Baseball draft.

COACH OF THE WEEK



Coach's Name: **Erik Jensen**

Team: **YNS Sharks (swimming)**

"Coach Erik is very nice and funny, and he pushes us to do our best. He makes sure we are focused and not goofing off. When we practiced diving, he jumped into the pool and taught us how to do the best dive we could. He's been helping us on different strokes by getting us out of the pool and showing us how to move our hands and arms and kick the right way. At the start of the season, I was just OK, but he has helped me improve a lot!" Oliver, 10, Massachusetts

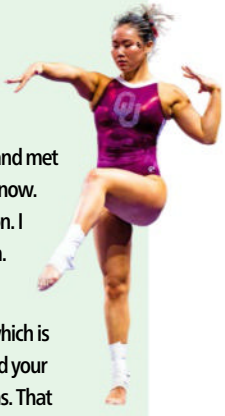
To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to *hello@theweekjunior.com*. Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Meilin Sullivan

AGE: 21 SPORT: GYMNASTICS
TEAM: UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Tumbling in I started gymnastics for fun when I was 2 or 3. A couple of years later, I joined a junior club team. I like the sport because it kind of feels like you're flying.



Role model I remember watching Maggie Nichols on TV and really liking her gymnastics. I got to the University of Oklahoma and met her because she is a student-coach now. She's a very kind and humble person. I look up to her in and out of the gym.

Tough time My freshman year of college, I had myocarditis, which is inflammation of the muscles around your heart. I had to sit out for four months. That was really hard. It took probably a full year for my gymnastics to feel the same as it had before.

Training plans Over the summer, we mostly practice individual skills. In preseason, which is August to December, we put skills together and sometimes do a third or half of our routines. During competition season, which is January to April, we work on routines basically every practice. In my free time, I like reading, drawing, and painting.

Mental tricks Before a routine at a big event, I focus on my breathing, talk positively to myself, and think about all the repetitions I've done in practice.

Memorable meets We won nationals in 2022 and 2023. You build that big moment up in your head, and when it finally happens, it's exciting, fun, and emotional. I want to win another one.

Her advice Find something you are passionate about and put your whole heart into it. It's cool to see how hard work will pay off.

GETTY IMAGES; OU ATHLETICS; ON LEFT PAGE: USWNT (2); GETTY IMAGES (1); LEGO

MAJOR MOVIES
Over the years, the Indiana Jones films have made more than $940 million at the worldwide box office.

Harrison Ford in *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny*

Indiana Jones' new adventure

The fictional archaeologist hero has returned to the big screen in a new chapter from a classic movie franchise.

One of the most popular film characters in history is back in a new movie. Indiana Jones, a professor and archaeologist (scientist who studies ancient objects) who hunts for supernatural artifacts, has returned in *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny*, the fifth film in a series. The movie is now in theaters and rated PG-13 for violence and action, language, and smoking.

Audiences first met Indiana Jones in 1981's *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, a film set in the 1930s. Actor Harrison Ford, who plays the character, recently spoke to BBC Radio 1 about the movies and said, "The stories are so compelling and they mix adventure, humor, and heart." In *Dial of Destiny,* which takes place in 1969, Indy is about to retire from his job when he gets a visit from his goddaughter, Helena Shaw (Phoebe Waller-Bridge). She wants the Archimedes Dial, an artifact he has that can change the course of history. She takes it, and he eventually goes to retrieve it before evil people can get it. The dial was inspired by a real device thought to be used in ancient Greece to calculate and display information about astronomy.

Phoebe Waller-Bridge

The new film was directed by James Mangold. He said it is about "time, opportunities missed, opportunities lost, choices made, [and] irrevocable mistakes." *Dial of Destiny* has many action scenes, including chases through the streets of New York City and Tangiers, Morocco, plus an underwater dive in Greece. It also includes a flashback to the 1930s, which meant Ford, who was 79 during filming, had to look 37. To do that, artificial intelligence technology was used to layer his new dialogue over footage from earlier films.

Ford plans to stop playing the Indiana Jones character after *Dial of Destiny*. He told *Esquire*, "I wanted an ambitious movie to be the last one."

3 facts about Harrison Ford

Early years

Harrison Ford was born and raised around Chicago, Illinois. He started acting in college. For years, he also worked as a carpenter to earn money while he auditioned for TV and film roles.

Ford filming a movie in 1966

Action star

Ford was not yet a well-known actor when he was cast as Han Solo in the first *Star Wars* film. It turned him into a big star, and he has acted in five of the nine main films. *Star Wars* and Indiana Jones were created by George Lucas.

A hero in real life

The actor is a helicopter pilot and has been flying for nearly 30 years. He has rescued hikers on mountains and helped transport doctors and supplies in Haiti after an earthquake.

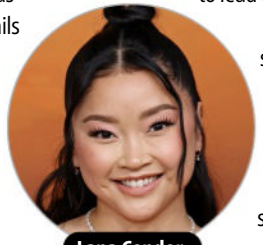
WOW! Giant squids can be about as long as a bus and weigh about 440 pounds.

Ruby Gillman, Teenage Kraken

A fresh take on a mighty monster

The new animated film *Ruby Gillman, Teenage Kraken* is portraying a type of mythological sea beast in a new way. The action-comedy centers on a family of krakens, monsters that are similar to squid and feared by sailors. In the film, teen Ruby and her parents and brother are friendly creatures who live on land and try to blend in as humans. After Ruby learns new details about her identity, she has to figure out who she wants to be. The film is now in theaters.

Ruby Gillman was directed by Kirk DeMicco. He told *The Week Junior* that even though Ruby (voiced by Lana Condor) is a sea monster, her character is very relatable. "She grapples with familiar challenges, such as insecurity and the desire to belong," he said. She also wants to embrace what makes her special. "Her journey revolves around the quest to discover her place in the world," he said.



Lana Condor

The film not only challenges the classic idea of a kraken but also casts mermaids as evil, which is different from the way *The Little Mermaid* and other modern films have depicted them. DeMicco said, "It was fun to explore the mermaids' more historical role as sirens, who sang songs to sailors to lead them into danger."

The Gillmans are boneless, squishy creatures, and the film's animators enjoyed getting creative with the family members' movements. "It allowed them new freedoms to create visually stunning and hilarious physical comedy sequences," DeMicco said. Still, between the film's funny moments there are meaningful life lessons. DeMicco told *The Week Junior,* "We hope Ruby's journey inspires us all to embrace our individual identities, confront our fears of judgment, and ultimately find where we truly belong in the world."

READER RECOMMENDS

Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile *(Netflix)*

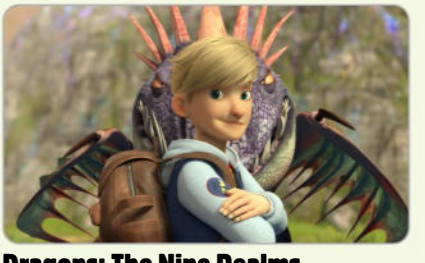
"In this movie, the main character is Josh, a boy who moves to New York City. He doesn't have any friends, and he is nervous about living in a new place. One day, he finds a singing crocodile living in his attic and the pair become friends. A lot of other things happen in the movie, too. For example, Josh and a magician named Hector P. Valenti break into the New York Zoo. It is a funny and very entertaining movie. I think the moral of the story is to not judge a book by its cover because Lyle is a giant reptile, but he is actually really friendly." Nolan, 11, North Carolina

Do you have a film or TV show to recommend to other kids? Send your review to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST

American Ninja Warrior
(NBC) Mondays at 8 pm ET
This hit competition series, in which athletes tackle some of the world's most challenging obstacle courses, is back for a 15th season. New features include an 18.5-foot Mega Wall and a competition that challenges the Ninjas to complete six courses in a set amount of time.

SharkFest
(National Geographic, Disney+, Hulu)
From July 2 to July 27, National Geographic will roll out its annual batch of new shows on sharks. Viewers can see amazing close-up footage of the animals, follow research expeditions, and hear from experts on topics such as why sharks attack and which species are under threat.



Dragons: The Nine Realms
(Hulu, Peacock)
Season six of this *How to Train Your Dragon* spin-off series was recently released. It follows a group of teens who ride and protect dragons. Many people know the creatures are real now, so the riders face new challenges. They will also meet dragons from a new realm.

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS; GETTY IMAGES; SONY PICTURES; ELIZABETH MORRIS/NBC; NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FOR DISNEY/MIKE HEITHAUS; DREAMWORKS ANIMATION; ON LEFT PAGE: LUCASFILM LTD.; GETTY IMAGES (4)

SUMMER OF READING FEATURED PICK

Haru, Zombie Dog Hero

By Ellen Oh

(Harper)

With just a few weeks of summer break left, Luke and his friends are hanging out in the woods near his house. When a raccoon tries to attack them, Haru, Luke's beloved dog, scares it away. Haru is hurt and has to stay overnight at the vet. Other animals at the vet's office tell Haru that humans will always let him down, but Haru doesn't believe them. Soon after Luke and Haru are reunited, a fire breaks out at a nearby factory and they can't go outside because the air is unhealthy to breathe. They nurse Penny, a stray cat who is covered in debris from the fire, back to health. Penny warns that the factory is doing something mysterious to dogs. Once it's safe to go back outside, a mean landlord falsely accuses Haru of attacking her. Luke's family allows animal rescue to take Haru to a shelter for the night until they can sort things out with a judge. But Haru is brought to the factory instead. Will Haru be able to escape before being experimented on? The last few chapters are fast-paced and tense, but the ending is upbeat. This book is the first of a new series. Read chapter two, starting on the next page!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR YOUR BOOK CLUB

Haru, Zombie Dog Hero is a feel-good story about the close relationship between a boy and his dog that turns into a sci-fi adventure. Use these questions to get the conversation started with family and friends who have also enjoyed the book.

Did humans let Haru down? And if so, how?

What adjective do you think best describes Haru?

How are Haru and Luke loyal to each other?

Does the landlord in the story remind you of a character from another book? If so, who?

Why do you think Penny left the safety of Luke's house?

Did you like that the story was told from the third-person perspective? Why or why not?

How does the tone of the story change from the beginning of the book to the end?

2023 Summer of Reading The Week Junior

Our list of "The 50 Books Kids Love Most," details about entering our Summer of Reading sweepstakes, and more can be found at **kids.theweekjunior.com/summerofreading**.

Ask the Author Ambassador

Ellen Oh writes and edits fantasy and horror books, and she is a founding member of We Need Diverse Books, a nonprofit group. *The Week Junior* spoke to her about *Haru, Zombie Dog Hero*, her book that is the first in a new series.

Do you have a dog?

I have two dogs, Tokki and Kiko. Tokki is a grouchy 9-year-old Coton de Tulear, which is a fancy term for a cottonball dog. Kiko, age 6, is a Goldendoodle, and she loves everybody. Tokki tolerates her.

Were your dogs your inspiration for this book?

I got the idea when I was eating popcorn on the sofa and my dogs were on my lap. They love popcorn and wanted me to share it. I looked into their eyes and thought if they turned into zombies, they would never hurt me as long as I had popcorn.

What's your writing style?

I'm a visual writer—I get an idea and it will play like a movie in my head. I also know my conclusion before I start writing.

Whose books did you enjoy reading in middle school?

Judy Blume, Ursula K. Le Guin, and Lois Duncan were my favorite authors. I also really liked *The Count of Monte Cristo* by Alexandre Dumas.

Where do you like to read?

Either in bed or in a comfy lounge chair. I get absorbed in a book quickly and won't put it down for hours.

What's your favorite thing to do in the summer?

I love the feeling of going to an air-conditioned movie theater and then coming out into the warmth.

BOOK: COURTESY THE PUBLISHER; AUTHOR: MATT MCKEE; GETTY IMAGES (4)

EXCLUSIVE EXCERPT

In chapter two, Haru is in an animal hospital talking to other pets. He ended up there because he got hurt after protecting his human, Luke, and Luke's friends from a raccoon. Haru misses Luke—Luke is his whole world. But the other pets whisper that humans can't always be trusted. Will Luke come back for Haru?

Haru, Zombie Dog Hero

By Ellen Oh

CHAPTER TWO

THE SMALL TOWN of Painted Lake, Virginia, was in Manakee County and 195 miles southwest of Washington, DC. It had a population of 8,500 people per the last census and was situated just west of US Route 1, a major highway that traveled up and down the East Coast. Main Street, the biggest thoroughfare, started northeast of town from Route 1 and wound through the picturesque town center until it sharply veered west, past Lake Manakee.

Painted Lake Animal Hospital was south of town, right off Main Street near the lake. Inside, Haru sat in a large cage howling softly to himself.

"Aroo, aroo!" The mournful crooning conveyed the depth of his sadness.

Haru always wanted to be a Good Boy.

Haru didn't understand why he was here in his least favorite place in the whole world. The VETS. A place where he always got poked with sharp painful things they called the SHOTS. Today's was particularly brutal. It had hurt more than the bite from that sick raccoon.

Haru was sad and confused. He thought he'd done a good thing. He'd smelled the sickness in the creature and knew it was bad for his humans. It was his job to protect them. His human Luke and a whole lot of adult humans had showered him with praise and affection because he'd saved them from danger. Haru had been happy because he was a Good Boy. The highest of praises. Haru always wanted to be a Good Boy. But then his human parents had left Haru at the VETS instead of taking him home. He hated being in a cage. It was the worst feeling in the whole world. Being trapped and kept away from your family. The VETS were nice to him except when they gave him the SHOTS. Today's had hurt a lot, even after they soothed him and called him a Good Boy and gave him treats that were yummy. Haru was very unhappy.

The only other time he'd had to stay at the VETS was a long time ago, when he was still a young pup. He had gotten really sick after eating some human food that had been left outside the back of the store. He remembered seeing the mean woman that always came and harassed his human parents. He didn't like her, but the food had smelled delicious. He'd thrown up all he'd eaten and yet he had still kept retching, as if everything inside of his body was trying to get out. His humans had been so upset. Luke had cried a lot. Haru had felt guilty. He should have known not to eat the strange food with the small pellets that looked like the color of a bright sunny sky. Such an odd color in his usually gray food. But Haru had recognized the scent of his favorite, chicken, and he couldn't resist. His humans had kept repeating the word "poison" over and over again, so Haru now knew that "poison" was very bad. And now whenever the mean woman came to the store, Haru always growled at her, because she had tried to hurt him.

At least today Haru didn't feel that sick. The pain of his wound had subsided to a dull ache. He would have been perfectly fine at home.

"Aroo, aroooooooooo," he whined.

"Calm down, dog, you're bothering me," a large gray cat said.

Haru nosed up against the bars of his cage and stared at the cat, who sat on the long table in the middle of the room, his tail swishing lazily from side to side.

"Why aren't you in a cage?" Haru asked.

"Because I am the boss here," he replied.

BOOK AND ILLUSTRATIONS: COURTESY THE PUBLISHER; AUTHOR: SUSIE JAMES; GETTY IMAGES (3)

entire domain. All the other humans must listen to us and do what we want."

"I don't think that's how it works," a calico cat in a small cage on the other side of the room remarked.

"Nobody asked you," the gray cat retorted. He stretched luxuriously and stared at Haru. "Heard you got bit by the rabies."

"What's that?" Haru asked.

The gray cat blinked. "Dog, don't you know anything? The rabies is the dangerous thing that can kill us. It's why we get the SHOTS. Why do you think you're in that cage instead of at home?"

"My name is Haru, not Dog," Haru growled. He suddenly remembered hearing about the rabies being bad.

That was why he had to get the SHOTS for it three times. They'd hurt a lot. "Do I have the rabies now too?" he asked anxiously.

"They don't know," the gray cat replied. "That's why you have to stay in the cage for a little while. Sheesh, don't you listen when the humans are talking about you?"

Haru hung his head. Truth was, he didn't always understand what they were saying.

"If you got the rabies, you may never go home," the gray cat continued.

Haru whimpered loudly. That was the worst thing in the world that could happen. He had to go home to his human.

"Don't pay any attention to what that big hairball has to say. He doesn't know what he's talking about," the calico cat drawled.

"I do too!" the gray cat hissed angrily.

"You're just trying to scare him."

"He should be scared! It's his fault for not being careful!"

A sudden loud growl filled the room. "Be quiet, I'm trying to sleep here!"

Haru peered through the bars of his cage to see a large dark figure not too far away from him.

"Sorry to disturb you," the calico cat said politely. But the figure didn't respond.

"Oh, don't worry about Bruno," the gray cat said. "His family has been going on vacation without him often these days. That's why he's always in a bad mood when he gets dropped off here."

"But isn't vacation a good thing?" Haru asked. Whenever Luke said "vacation," it meant he didn't have to go to school and could stay and play with Haru all day.

"Not when the vacation is at a place that only humans can go," the calico cat chimed in. "My human had to go away for WORK. That's why she left me here."

"Hmph, my human takes me everywhere," the gray cat bragged. "I've even been on the bird machines that go in the sky. Although I really hated it."

"Nobody cares," the calico cat said.

"You're just jealous," the gray cat replied.

A noise at the door caught all their attention as a pretty human girl entered the room. She pushed a cart with bowls of food and a pitcher of water through the open doorway.

"Mitten! Time for din-din!" she caroled. "Mitten?"

The calico cat yowled with laughter. The gray cat narrowed his eyes.

"You don't get to make fun of my name!" he spat. "What kind of name is Gigi?"

The calico cat stopped laughing and sniffed. "A better name than Mitten."

"I think Gigi is pretty," Haru replied.

"No one asked you!" Mitten snapped angrily before turning away and stalking over to the girl. He began purring as she stroked him.

Haru was suddenly hungry and let out a plaintive woof.

"Oh, I'm sorry, Haru," the girl said, leaving Mitten to plop ungracefully onto his back. "You must be hungry after all you've gone through."

She opened the cage to give him his food and sat down to pet him. "You're such a brave dog, Haru. A real hero!"

Not really paying attention to what the human was saying, Haru wolfed down his dinner. The VETS food wasn't as tasty as the food his human mom would make him, but he was too hungry to care. When he was done, he noticed that the girl had left and that the others were quickly eating their food, except for Mitten. Mitten had taken one bite and then turned away.

"What's the matter with your food?" Haru asked. He was still hungry and stared wistfully at Mitten's bowl. "It's not my normal brand," he sniffed. "I prefer salmon to chicken."

Haru didn't know what salmon was, but he knew chicken was his favorite. His mouth watered, wishing

Haru couldn't imagine his life without Luke.

he could eat more.

"Seriously?" Gigi asked. "You are way too spoiled." The gray cat hissed spitefully at the calico cat.

"Mitten should be grateful that his humans give him any food at all," Bruno growled suddenly. He'd risen quietly and was now glaring at the cat.

The two cats quieted down. Gigi gazed at Bruno in pity. "Are your humans forgetting to feed you?"

"Not forgetting, they're punishing me," Bruno responded. "All because I've been having more accidents lately."

"Oh boy, they really hate that," Gigi remarked. "It's the only time my human ever gets cross with me."

Bruno heaved a mournful sigh. "It's not like I do it on purpose. I'm just getting old, and I can't always control myself. Especially when they forget to let me out. I can't hold it in as long as I used to."

"That's why it's so much better to be a cat," Mitten responded. "I don't know how you dogs do it. We cats do our business indoors just like our humans. That's the difference between cats and dogs. Dogs serve humans, and humans serve cats because they love us more."

"Cut it out! You're not helping at all!" the calico cat snapped.

But it was too late. Bruno slunk to the back of his cage and curled up into a tight ball.

Haru didn't understand what was going on. He loved being a dog and would never want to be a cat. He had tried to make friends with a little white stray cat that had come into the store once, meowing for food. His human mom had sneezed nonstop and got really itchy all over her body, and his human dad had to shoo it out of the store. No, Haru was glad he wasn't a cat. Although he had seen his human dad secretly feeding the cat in the backyard. Afterward, whenever the cat came by, his human dad or Luke would feed it. But whenever Haru tried to talk to her, she wouldn't say much. The cat was more interested in eating and vanishing into the woods. She wasn't very friendly. Haru attributed it to living in the wild.

"Why do Bruno's humans punish him?" Haru asked quietly.

Mitten stalked over to his cage and began grooming himself. He then stopped and said, "I heard his family received a human baby and spend all their time with it now." Mitten shuddered. "Detestable things, human babies. Always causing problems."

"I quite like them," Gigi said. "They are cute and taste of milk."

"You wouldn't like them if they came into your family and took your place," Mitten warned. "I've heard so many stories like this. The human family brings home a baby and they spend all their time with the baby and forget about their pet. And the next thing you know, their dog is sent to a shelter. Believe me, I've seen it happen often."

The big dog began to whimper.

Gigi snarled at Mitten. "You have a habit of saying the worst possible things!"

Mitten blinked and then continued to groom himself. "Better that he is prepared for the worst."

Haru laid his head on his paws, thinking about Mitten's words. The stray cat that had come to his store had an old collar on, just like Mitten and Gigi and even Haru. The only animals that wore the collars were ones that lived with humans. Was the stray cat abandoned by its humans also? Could his family ever do that to him?

"Haru! I missed you so much!"

No, they'd never! Haru shook his head hard. Luke was his human and would never abandon him. He was Haru's whole world. He couldn't imagine life without Luke.

He spent a restless night and woke up when the pretty human girl came back to let them out of their cages. They followed her out into the large, gated yard with lots of grass and a few trees. After relieving himself, Haru wandered around the length of the fence, staring hopefully through the chain links. As he rounded the perimeter, he came across Bruno staring steadily at the gravel road outside their fence.

"How are you feeling today?" Haru asked.

Bruno didn't respond. He didn't even turn his head, continuing to gaze out onto the roadway. In the sunlight, Haru could see that Bruno was a large black dog with sad droopy eyes. Haru waited next to Bruno for several minutes before getting bored and deciding to move on. At that moment, he heard the loud grumbling of an approaching car and the crunch of gravel.

"They're here!" Haru barked happily. He knew the sound of his humans' car. Running to the far end of the gate, he soon saw the large shiny vehicle turn onto the gravel roadway. Beside himself with excitement, Haru ran back and forth as the car parked and Luke came running to the fence.

"Haru! I missed you so much!" Luke grasped the links of the fence and pressed his face against it. Haru whined and licked at the parts of Luke's face he could reach.

"Let's go in and get him," Luke's dad said as he reached a finger between the chain links to stroke Haru's nose. Then he pushed Luke toward the building.

ILLUSTRATIONS: COURTESY THE PUBLISHER

WOW! The world's tallest sandcastle was built in Denmark in 2021 and stood 69.4 feet high.

Build an epic sandcastle

You can bring your beach creations to the next level with a few simple steps.

Making an awesome sandcastle might be on your to-do list this summer. All you need, in addition to sand, is a bucket, a shovel, and a plastic knife. Here are some tips for getting started.

Pick a good spot

At the beach, scope out a location to build your castle. Keep the changing tide in mind. You'll want it to be far enough from the water that it won't get hit by a wave while you're working but close enough that you won't be lugging buckets of water too far. You also may want to avoid high-traffic areas, like directly in front of a path that leads to the concession stand or the bathrooms.

Prep the sand

To make a castle, you're going to need plenty of wet sand. When sand gets wet, the liquid bonds each grain together so it can be molded into other shapes. Fill your large bucket with water about halfway, then add about the same amount of sand. Mix it together with your hands until all the sand feels very wet and has a similar consistency to cake batter.

Start building

One simple way to build an impressive sandcastle is to make a "drizzle castle." Pull a fistful of wet sand from your bucket and let it drizzle from your hand to build a spire. Repeat several times to make the spire bigger, then start with a new spire and build several until you have a castle. If you want to make one tall castle, start by building a round base for support. Shovel sand to build a base about two to three feet wide, then smooth it into a round shape with your hands. Next, take a large handful of wet sand, form a flat pancake shape, and pat it down on your base. Stack several sand pancakes on top of one another to form towers. Keep adding wet sand and patting until you're happy with the basic shape of your castle. Take a break and let it dry a bit.

Start small and build up.

Carve the details

Carefully drag the back of a shovel to smooth the walls. Then, beginning at the top of the castle, use the plastic knife to carve details. You can draw several lines across a tower, then add vertical lines to make the sand walls look like bricks. You can also cut in circular windows or carve out steps to the castle. Be sure to carve slowly and carefully.

Add the final touches

You can leave your sandcastle just as it is or add a few flourishes. You can use what you find on the beach, such as shells to line the walls, a small piece of driftwood to create a bridge, or feathers to abut the entrance. You can also add a colorful beachy touch with something you brought with you, like a pinwheel.

4 super sandcastle contests in the US

Professional sand artists—yes, that's a real thing!—show off their skills at these events each year.

Blue Water SandFest
This lakeside event in Port Huron, Michigan, includes expert sand sculpting as well as free lessons from top competitors.

Siesta Key Crystal Classic
This event on Florida's Gulf Coast lasts four days and features 24 master sand sculptors who compete alone and in pairs. Spectators vote for the People's Choice Awards.

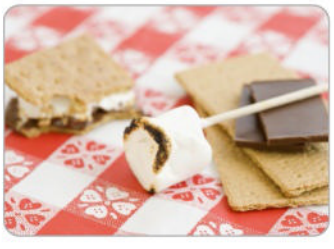
AIA Houston Sandcastle Competition
Competitors at this event in Houston, Texas, have a special edge—they are professional architects (people who design buildings).

Neptune's International Sandsculpting Championship
Some of the best sand sculptors from around the world come together to participate in this contest in Virginia Beach. Masterpieces on display include sand sculptures like that of author Mark Twain (above).

ROAST UP SOME TASTY S'MORES

This summertime dessert is easy to make and enjoy, whether you're camping or in the backyard.

1. **Gather the ingredients.** Classic s'mores are made by sandwiching toasted marshmallow and a piece of milk chocolate between two graham crackers. If you'd like, you could also experiment with different chocolate candies, like a peanut butter cup.
2. **Toast to perfection.** A campfire or a firepit is a great place to roast marshmallows. Always be sure to ask an adult's permission before approaching the fire. Push your marshmallow onto the tip of a long stick or thin wooden dowel, then hold it above the fire. Rotate the stick so the marshmallow melts evenly all the way around.
3. **Sandwich it up.** When nicely toasted, place the marshmallow between the graham crackers and chocolate. Hold the graham crackers firmly around the marshmallow, then pull out your stick. Bite into your s'more and enjoy!



DID YOU KNOW?
The first official celebration of Independence Day took place in Philadelphia on July 4, 1777, and included a fireworks display.

Tie-dye a fireworks T-shirt

What you need

- 100% cotton white T-shirt
- Scrap cardboard to fit inside shirt
- Embroidery hoop or glass bowls and rubber bands
- Permanent markers
- 91% isopropyl alcohol
- Eye or medicine dropper

Instructions

1. Slide the cardboard inside the T-shirt so the ink doesn't bleed through to the back side. Place the front of the shirt into the embroidery hoop. If you don't have an embroidery hoop, slide one or more bowls, open side up, inside the shirt where you would like to add a firework. Tie those areas of fabric with a rubber band taut over the bowl.
2. Draw an asterisk (an 'X' with another 'X' on top, like the one on the shirt shown above) with one or more colors of permanent marker. The lines can be straight or curvy.
3. Before the marker sets or dries, use your dropper to drip five or more drops of alcohol onto the center of the asterisk. Keep dripping until you get the ink to bleed out as much as you would like.
4. You can remove the embroidery hoop (or the rubber bands and bowls) and move them and repeat the above steps to add more fireworks.
5. When the T-shirt is dry, place it in the dryer on high heat for 15 minutes to set the dye. Whenever it's time to launder it, wash it by hand or in cold water on a delicate cycle.

ECO TIP OF THE WEEK: BE A SUSTAINABLE SUMMER TOURIST

Summer can be an ideal time to visit new places and learn about the world around you. But when tourists travel to their destination, their actions can sometimes be harmful to the surrounding environment. Some tourists may litter, causing pollution, or they may not be respectful of local wildlife and plants. One way to be a responsible traveler is to simply follow local rules. Look out for posted signs or park literature for guidelines, like staying off beach dunes or not feeding animals. Put garbage in its proper place. It can also help to minimize use of a car, which can cause pollution. Encourage your family to walk, bike, or use public transportation as much as possible.

Follow basic rules to respect nature.

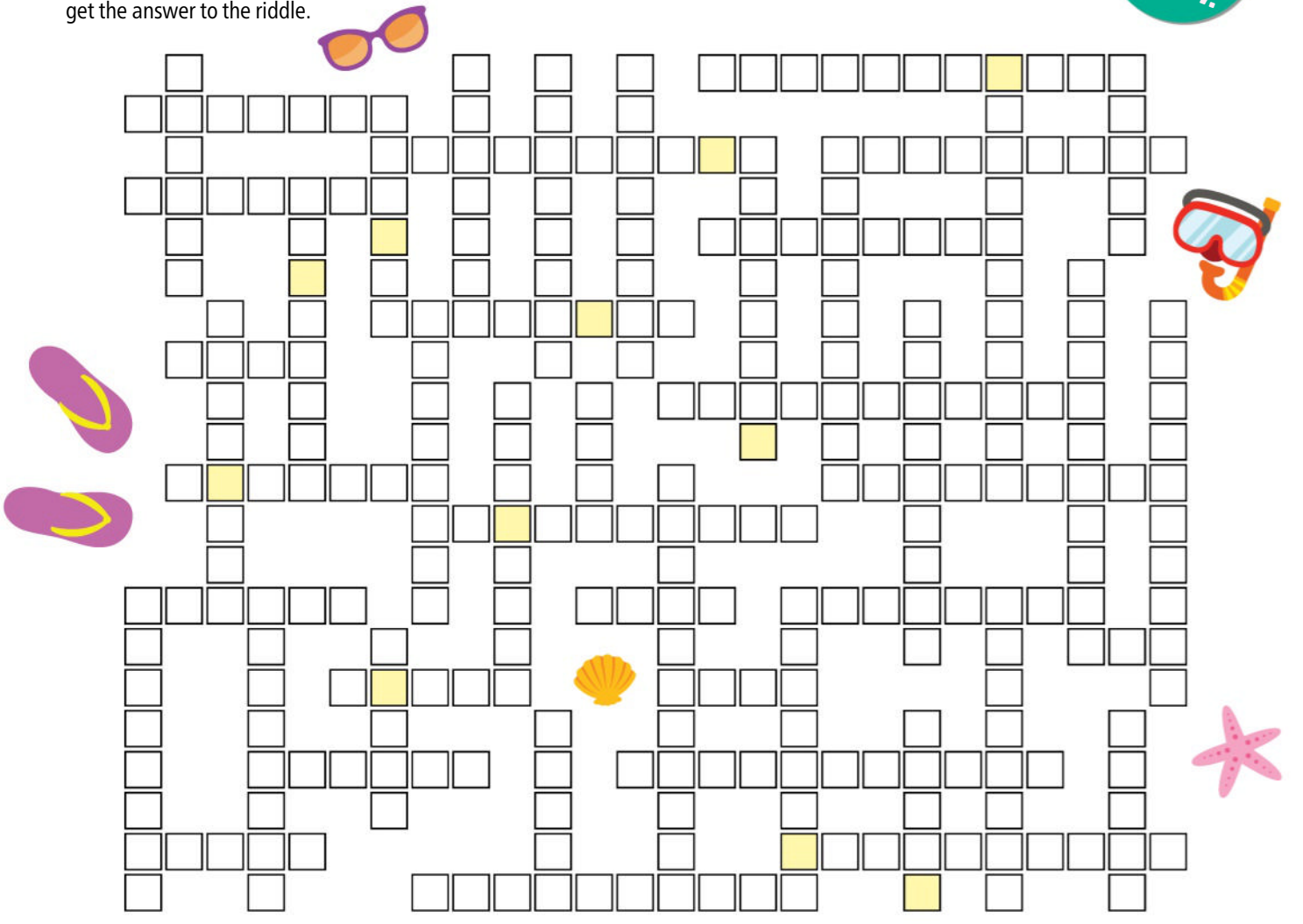
JODI LEVINE FOR SUPERMARKET; GETTY IMAGES (2); ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (2); BLUE WATER SAND FEST; SIESTA KEY CRYSTAL CLASSIC; AIA HOUSTON SANDCASTLE COMPETITION; NEPTUNE'S INTERNATIONAL SANDSCULPTING CHAMPIONSHIP

Summer brain teasers

Super sand and sea crisscross

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 37.

Each of these words associated with the beach fits into this grid. Can you find where each one goes to complete the grid? When you're done, transfer the letters in the yellow boxes, in order from top to bottom, into the boxes below to get the answer to the riddle.



3 letters
SEA

4 letters
BOAT
KELP
SHIP
WARM

5 letters
DUNES
HUMID
SALTY
SHORE
SUNNY
TOWEL
WAVES

6 letters
COOLER
PICNIC
SHELLS
SURFER

7 letters
FLOATIE
GOGGLES
HORIZON
TAN LINE

8 letters
BARBECUE
BREAKERS
FLIPPERS
ICE CREAM
POPSICLE
PORPOISE
SEAGRASS
SEAWATER
STARFISH
SUN VISOR
SWIMSUIT
TIDE POOL
UMBRELLA
VACATION

9 letters
BEACH BALL
BOARDWALK
FLIP-FLOPS
LIFEGUARD

10 letters
HERMIT CRAB
LIFE JACKET
LIGHTHOUSE
SANDCASTLE
SAND DOLLAR
SUNGLASSES

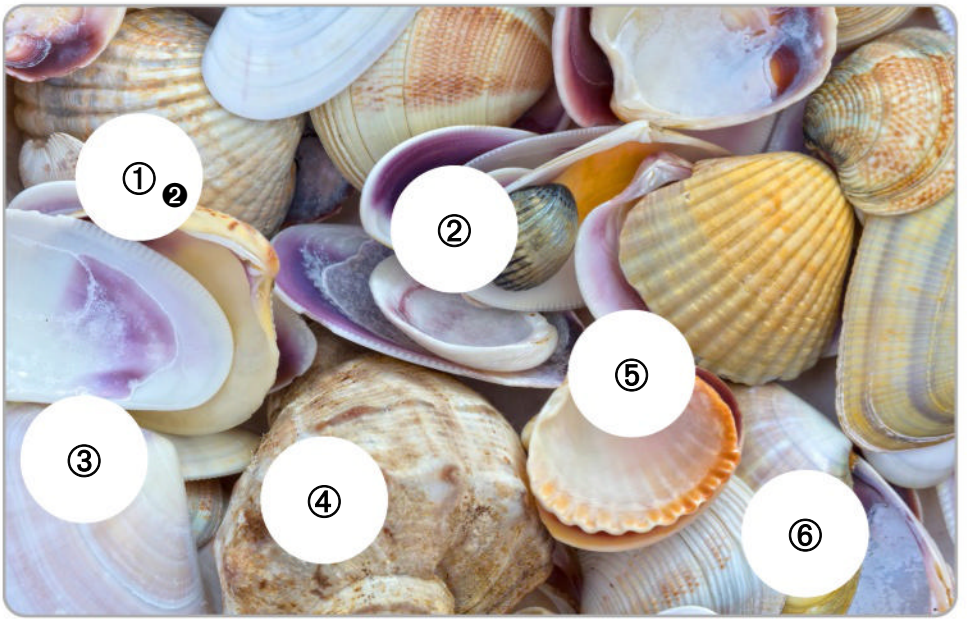
11 letters
BOARD SHORTS
BODYSURFING
BOOGIE BOARD
INFLATABLES
SCUBA DIVING

Q: What animal is the national emblem of United States beaches? A: The ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

PUZZLES BY PUZZABILITY

DETAILS, DETAILS

Six pieces have been removed from this photo of seashells. Can you match the circular details under the photo with the numbered sections they came from?



A _____ B _____ C _____ D _____ E _____ F _____

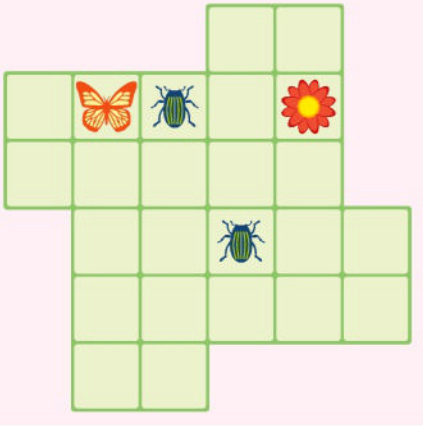
JUGGLING ACT

Use the letters L, D, E in any order to complete each four-letter word.

L	D	E	
F			
		N	
I			
	U		
H			
			I

Garden path

Draw one continuous path from the butterfly to the flower that goes through every box except the ones containing beetles. Your path may not cross itself, and there is only one solution.



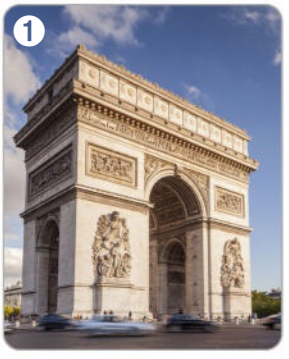
Four square

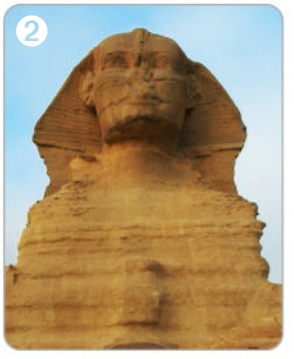
There are two separate spots in this grid where a square is formed that contains one of each of the four objects shown. Can you find them both?

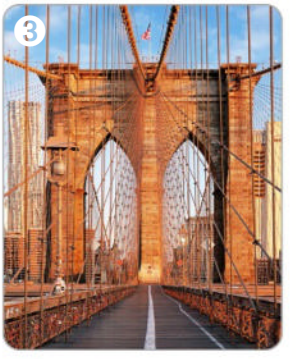
ALL PAGES: GETTY IMAGES

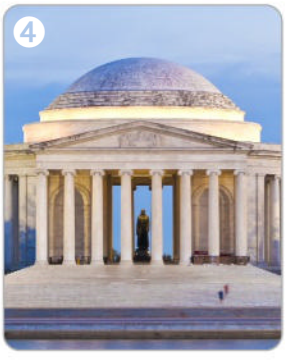
AMERICA, AMERICA

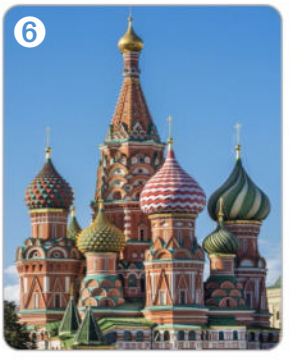
Can you tell which of these are NOT in the US? And if not, do you know where they're located?

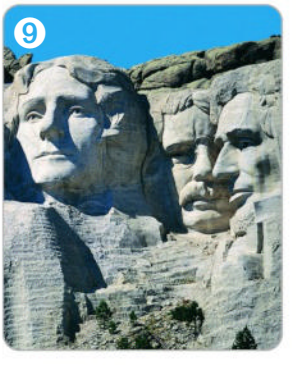












MADE TO ORDER

For each category, place the nine trios of letters into the blanks to get three nine-letter words that fit the category. Keep each trio of letters in the order shown without rearranging. One trio has been placed to get you started.

Summer camp

LOR	ALL	COU
NSE	PAI	PFI
CAM	RES	NTB

CAM _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

At baseball stadiums

USE	BOT	ACH
BLE	CLU	RON
BHO	JUM	ERS

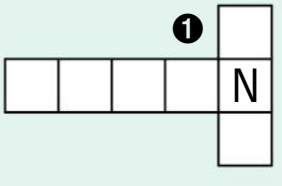
_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

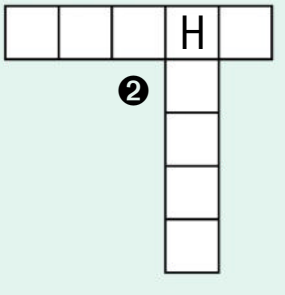
_____ _____ _____

Opposite pairs

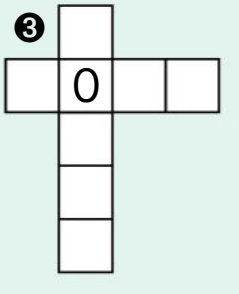
Use the letters given beneath each grid to fill in two words that are opposites, like GIVE and TAKE. The letter where the words cross is given.



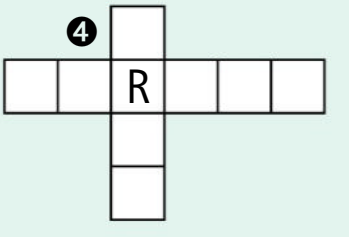
B D E E G I



A E G I L T V Y



D F L N S T U



G H I K N O S W

Big picnic word search

Every word in this picnic basket contains an ANT—the letters A-N-T together. Wherever A-N-T appears in a word, it has been replaced in the grid with a picture of an ant. For example, the word FANTASTIC can be found as F🐜ASTIC. Can you find all the ant-sy words in the grid? They are hidden horizontally, vertically, or diagonally and can appear forward or backward. When you're done, read the remaining letters (and remaining ants) to get a bonus message.

								A	T		H	M									
							E	R	O		P	E	R								
							E	🐜				H	A								
						A	C	M				🐜	🐜	R							
						N	E						🐜	O							
					E	N	R						🐜	S	M						
					O	E								T	U						
				🐜	S	🐜								N	R	L					
				T	H										🐜	O					
T	L	B	L	A	C	K	P	🐜	H	E	R	E	S	I	E	T	A	P	I	C	I	🐜
X	A	C	U	O	N	H	T	E	V	I	N	M	C	R	🐜	E	R	E	M	N	🐜	P
N	I	R	T	S	E	T	🐜	A	L	I	Z	I	N	G	B	O	S	U	T	I	E	T
	🐜	H	🐜	A	P	F	C	D	E	E	🐜	M	O	N	C	E	N	L	Y	N	🐜	
	T	Y	S	U	O	🐜	🐜	O	I	R	U	O	F	I	R	E	H	Y	D	R	🐜	
	S	🐜	C	I	L	P	P	A	F	S	C	🐜	A	G	O	N	F	🐜	M	I	I	
	B	N	🐜	D	E	A	I	B	S	N	M	P	E	🐜	I	G	T	I	A	R	Q	
	U	C	E	E	🐜	R	A	U	G	T	T	🐜	I	C	S	I	A	L	A	U	U	
	S	🐜	A	L	I	S	T	N	H	E	I	O	L	N	S	P	E	L	🐜	T	E	
		H	T	A	E	🐜	I	D	O	T	E	C	T	E	🐜	S	🐜	I	L	T		
		A	E	U	A	G	S	🐜	A	F	E	R	H	T	S	I	T	R	T	🐜		
		S	R	N	M	A	🐜	H	R	O	P	O	L	O	G	Y	M	B	Y	E		

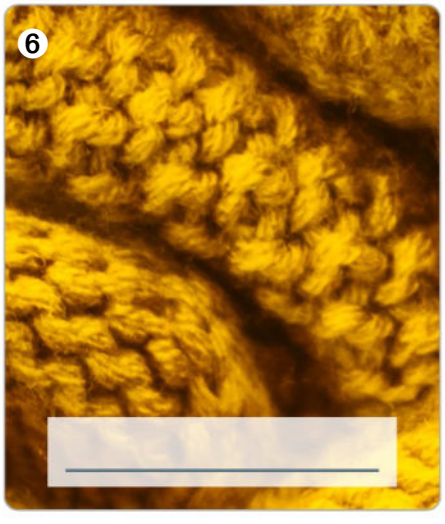
ABUNDANT
ANTEATER
ANTELOPE
ANTENNA
ANTHEM
ANTHROPOLOGY
ANTICIPATE
ANTIDOTE
ANTIQUE
ANTONYM
APPLICANTS
ATLANTA
BLACK PANTHER
BRILLIANT
CROISSANT
DISMANTLE
ELEGANT
ELEPHANT
ENCANTO
FANTASTIC
FIRE HYDRANT
FRANTIC
GALLANT
GUARANTEE
HESITANT
IMPORTANT
LANTERN
MANTRA
MUTANT
PANTOMIME
PANTRY
PENDANT
PHANTOM
PHEASANT
QUANTITY
REMNANT
RESTAURANT
SANTA FE
SERGEANT
SUBSTANTIAL
TANTALIZING
TANTRUM
TARANTULA
VACANT

Spot the difference

These two pictures of ice cream appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?

Up close

Each of these photos is an extreme close-up of something familiar. Can you recognize each one?



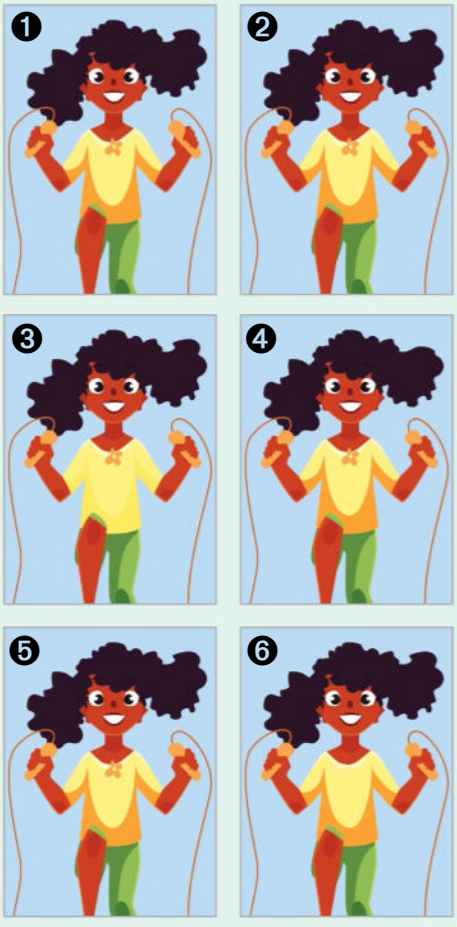
Sunny days word ladder

To change the word CRAB into the word WALK, use each clue to fill in a word that is only one letter different from the word before it. Some of the clues are pictures—things that a crab might see on a walk at the beach. If you get stuck, try solving from the bottom up.

	C R A B
Push more stuff into a space than can fit ▶	
▶	
Noise from a door that's been loudly shut ▶	
Line where two pieces of fabric are joined ▶	
Ray of sunlight ▶	
Drummer's responsibility in a band ▶	
▶	
Hardware item usually bought with a nut ▶	
It holds up loose pants ▶	
Liberty ___ (historic item with a famous crack) ▶	
Duck's beak ▶	
Part of a fish that helps it breathe in water ▶	
▶	
Like an overflowing trash can ▶	
Season that follows summer ▶	
Try unsuccessfully ▶	
▶	
Gave money to purchase ▶	
Uttered ▶	
▶	
Drifted below the water's surface ▶	
Gear on a scuba diver's back ▶	
Say something ▶	
	W A L K

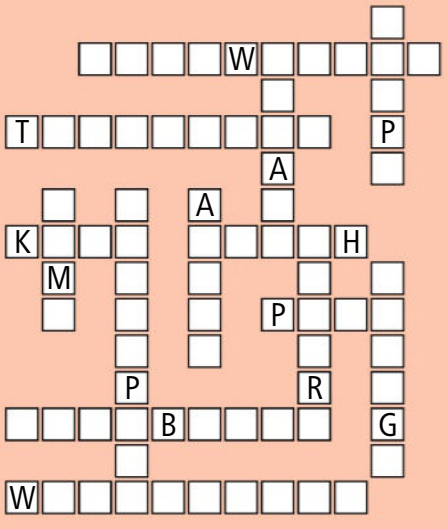
Find the match

Which two of these jump ropers are the same?



FRUIT SALAD

Complete the grid so that every word is the name of a familiar fruit.



It was panda-monium!

Adventurous panda's day out

A curious red panda took the opportunity to do a bit of sightseeing in the town of Newquay, England, after she escaped from the local zoo. The animal, named Sundara, is about 1 year old and arrived at Newquay Zoo this spring. Days later, she escaped and was spotted strolling down the road by employees at a produce market about half a mile from the zoo. They rolled a juicy apple toward her to keep her busy until help arrived from the zoo to take her back to her enclosure. "The panda very much enjoyed the apple," the store manager said.

This seems like a "grate" gig.

Seeking a cheese taste-tester

Are you passionate about cheddar? The University of Wisconsin-Madison may have a job for you. The college's Center for Dairy Research recently sought applications for a "descriptive sensory panelist." Their task will be to sample different dairy products and describe the experience of eating each one. The panelist will "become part of a group of expert tasters" rating the food products based on texture, taste, smell, and appearance. To get the job, they must be willing to taste as many as 12 pizzas and 24 cheese samples each week.

AeroSuperBatics in action

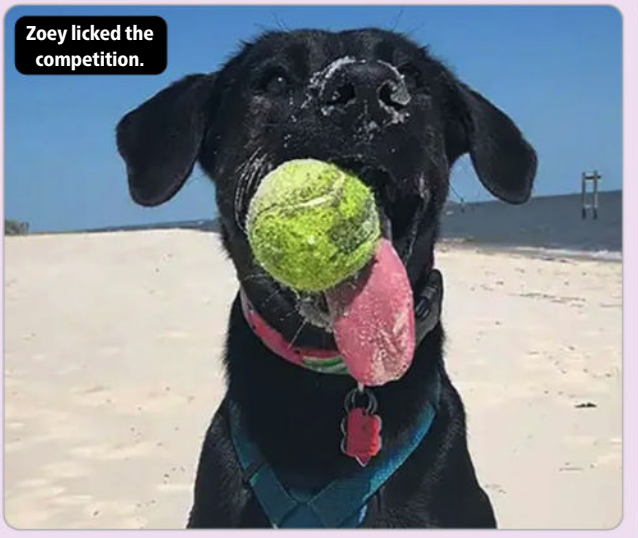
Daredevil team takes to the skies

Can you imagine being strapped to the top of an airplane? What if the plane was twisting in the air to perform stunts and lots of planes did this together? This is known as "aerobatic formation wingwalking." A team of daredevils called AeroSuperBatics, who say they are the only group in the world to do all these things at once, recently impressed crowds at the Midlands Air Festival in the UK. They have performed their incredible mid-air stunts in more than 20 countries.

The world was their bathtub.

Big ducks land in Hong Kong

People walking along Hong Kong's Victoria Harbor in mid-June might have spotted an unusual sight: two 59-foot-tall rubber ducks. They were installed by Dutch artist Florentijn Hofman, who said they represented friendship, connection, and "enjoying the moment together!" In 2013, Hofman put one slightly smaller duck in the harbor, and it made headlines when all the air drained out of it one night. This year, when extreme weather cut the exhibition short, thousands of people came to say goodbye to the ducks.

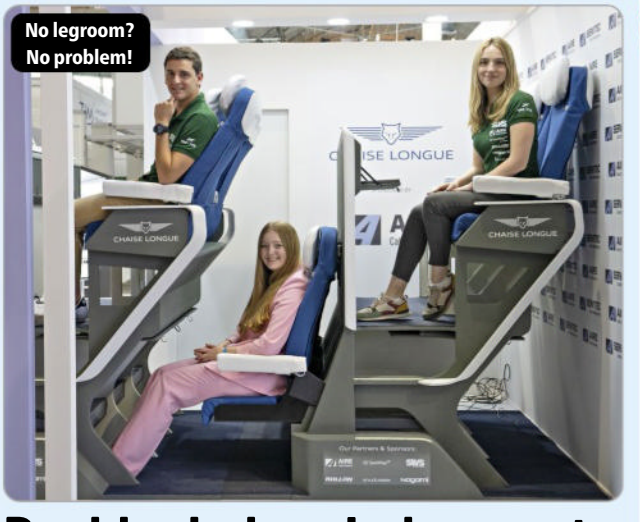


The dog with an amazing tongue

Zoey, a 3-year-old Labrador and German shepherd mix from Louisiana, has broken a record with her five-inch tongue. Zoey's owners said they noticed the long tongue when she was a puppy but thought "surely she'd grow into it." Now a visit to the vet and certification by Guinness World Records have confirmed that she has the world's longest tongue on a dog. Zoey's owner tells people who want to pet her, "She's friendly, but she might slobber on you."

A mouthwatering work of art

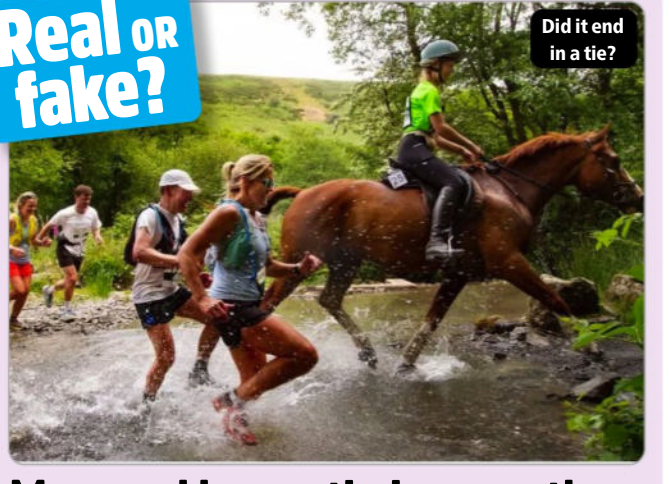
Using ingredients found in her kitchen, artist Kim Bainbridge has created a Dutch landscape made entirely from food. Her "foodscape" creation included broccoli, berries, coffee, pasta, and rosemary leaves. It took her about 50 hours to make and was part of her final project for her art studies. Earlier this year, Bainbridge won a food photography contest with a foodscape that looked like the Amazon rainforest. She hates to waste food, so she ate the ingredients afterward.



Double-decker airplane seats

Flying in economy class might not feel very comfortable these days, but one designer has an idea to change that. Alejandro Núñez Vicente's new "double-decker" airplane cabin design would have passengers sitting in a staggered pattern, with some seats diagonally above the others. Critics think it seems cramped and say people won't want to look down over another row of passengers. But supporters say it would provide more room to stretch out legs or recline the seats. Núñez Vicente is confident in his design. "We know that this will work at some point," he said.

Real or fake?



Man and horse tie in marathon

You can lead a horse in a race, but you can't make them win it. The annual Man versus Horse race in the UK pits humans against horses in a 22-mile race through the Welsh countryside. Competitors cross mountains, marshes, and streams to reach the finish line. The horses usually win, but this year the race ended in a surprising tie between runner Daniel Connolly and a Clydesdale horse named DNS Ronaldo. Is this story real, or are we pulling a fast one?*

*Fake! Connolly actually won the race with a time of 2 hours, 24 minutes, and 38 seconds, becoming the fourth person ever to win over a horse. "Very happy to have beaten the horses," he wrote. "Leaving with a smile on my face and some achy legs."

ALAMY; GETTY IMAGES (5); MEDIADRUMIMAGES/KIMBAINBRIDGE (2); CHAISE LOUNGE; GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS; PETER BARNETT

Editor's note

This week we are pleased to bring you a very special summer blockbuster issue. From our big debate on whether swimming pools are better than the beach (p8) and our report on a favorite summertime food (hot dogs, p12) to our spread of fun activity ideas (p26) and a six-page section of summer-themed puzzles (p28), it's packed with bonus content to celebrate the season. We also continue our Summer of Reading program with an exclusive excerpt from Ellen Oh's new middle-grade book, *Haru, Zombie Dog Hero* (p22). You may be the only children in America who will be able to read this chapter before the publication date of July 11! Our editorial team is about to take a short break, so we will not produce an issue next week. But we will be back with Issue 170 the week after that. All of us wish you and your families a spectacular start to the summer!

Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief

CHARITY OF THE WEEK

Room to Read

This organization aims to help all children learn to read so they can pursue a quality education. It sets up libraries in schools around the world, providing books and reading materials in the area's local languages. It also connects young girls with mentors who help them continue their education. The group has helped more than 28 million children in 21 countries since 2000. Find out more at roomtoread.org.

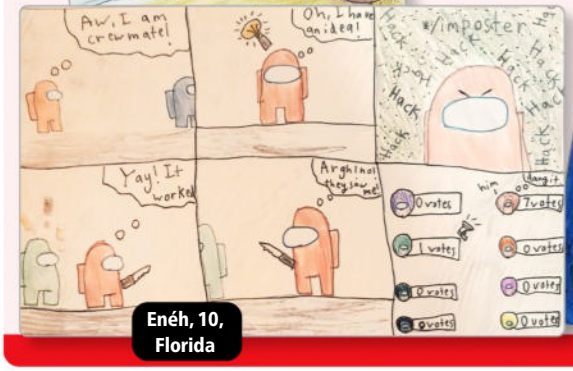
Room to Read

YOUR COMICS

Thank you to everyone who has submitted a comic! If you would like to create one to send to us, get the form at kids.theweekjunior.com/activities.

Savannah, 12, Texas

Lily, 15, and Robbie, 13, Connecticut



Enéh, 10, Florida

Addison, 10, Minnesota

SUMMER OF READING

Show us your favorite book!

If you're enjoying our Summer of Reading campaign, we'd love to know about it. Take a photo of yourself holding a book you recommend, and tell us why you like it. Have an adult email your submission to us at *hello@theweekjunior.com*. We will publish a selection of submissions in Issue 171. Our list of "The 50 Books Kids Love Most" and information about how to win prizes is at kids.theweekjunior.com/summerofreading. Finally, don't miss our interview with Author Ambassador Ellen Oh and an excerpt of her new book starting on page 22!

THE WEEK Junior IT'S YOUR TURN Email your news, views, and photos to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

Puzzle and quiz answers

SUMMER BRAIN TEASERS (pages 28–33)

Super sand and sea crisscross

		C				H	S	V		I	N	F	L	A	T	A	B	L	E	S		
G	O	G	G	L	E	S	O	W	A							O		A				
	O				H	E	R	M	I	T	C	R	A	B		B	O	A	R	D	W	A	L	K
F	L	O	A	T	I	E		I		M	A		A		E			Y			T		
	E		I		L	Z		S		T		B	R	E	A	K	E	R	S		Y		
	R		D		L	O		U		I			B		C			U		S			
		S		E		S	U	N	V	I	S	O	R		E		H		F		R		U		S
	K	E	L	P			M			T		N			C		B		L		F		N		A
		A		O			B		S		B		S	C	U	B	A	D	I	V	I	N	G		N
		W		O			R		E		O				E		L		P		N		L		D
	T	A	N	L	I	N	E		A		A		B				L	I	F	E	G	U	A	R	D
		T				L	I	G	H	T	H	O	U	S	E				L			S		O	
		E				L	R				A								O			S		L	
S	U	R	F	E	R		A		A		W	A	R	M		P	O	R	P	O	I	S	E		L
T			L			S			S				D			O			S		C		S	E	A
A			I		D	U	N	E	S				S	H	I	P					E				R
R			P			N				H			H			S			T		C			W	
F			P	I	C	N	I	C		U		B	O	O	G	I	E	B	O	A	R	D		A	
I			E			Y				M			R			C			W		E			V	
S	H	O	R	E						I			T			L	I	F	E	J	A	C	K	E	T
H			S				S	A	N	D	C	A	S	T	L	E			L		M			S	

Riddle answer: The **BALD SEAGULL**.

America, America

The images that were taken in the US are:
3, 4, 5, 7, 9
The locations of the others are:
1 France **2** Egypt **6** Russia
8 United Kingdom

Up close

1 finger **2** cactus
3 ice cream cone **4** kiwi **5** honeycomb
6 sweater **7** chocolate chip cookie
8 potato chips **9** peas

Juggling act

fled
lend
idle
duel
held
deli

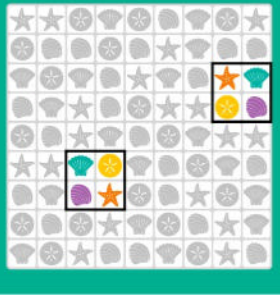
Made to order

Summer camp:
campfires, counselor, paintball
At baseball stadiums:
bleachers, clubhouse, Jumbotron

Fruit salad

								G														
		S	T	R	A	W	B	E	R	R	Y											
							A				A											
	T	A	N	G	E	R	I	N	E		P											
							A				E											
		L		P		A		N														
	K	I	W	I		P	E	A	C	H												
		M		N		P			H		O											
		E		E		L		P	E	A	R											
				A		E			R		A											
				P					R		N											
	R	A	S	P	B	E	R	R	Y		G											
				L							E											
	W	A	T	E	R	M	E	L	O	N												

Four square



Garden path

Opposite pairs

How much of this issue's news can you remember?

1 About two million muslims are traveling to Saudi Arabia for a pilgrimage called what?

2 A fossil belonging to which prehistoric sea creature was found in a museum drawer?

a) Helicoprion b) Mosasaur c) Pliosaur

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

3 What is the name of author and illustrator Remy Lai's first fantasy graphic novel?

4 True or false? Babies of four animal species, including meerkats, were recently born at the San Diego Zoo.

True ☐ False ☐

5 In the movie *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny*, what artifact does Indy retrieve?

a) Archimedes Dial b) Aristotle Dial

c) Alexander Dial

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

6 What is the name of the machine invented by students to help feed gorillas in zoos?

7 How old is Tokito Oda, the youngest grand slam winner in modern tennis history?

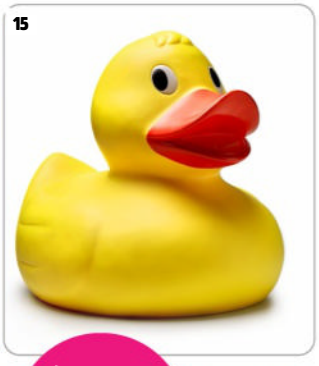
a) 17 b) 19 c) 21

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

8 True or false? When hot dogs were first brought to the US in the 1800s they were called "dachshund sausages."

True ☐ False ☐

4


15

12

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 37.

8

14

9 In the book *Haru, Zombie Dog Hero*, Haru scares which animal away from Luke and his friends?

a) Fox b) Raccoon c) Skunk

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

10 True or false? When a baseball player hits a single, double, triple, and home run in one game, it's called "hitting for the cycle."

True ☐ False ☐

11 Which civil rights leader was recently honored with a stamp from the US Postal Service?

a) Thurgood Marshall b) John Lewis

c) James Meredith

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

12 In the film *Ruby Gillman, Teenage Kraken*, what mythical sea creatures are depicted as evil?

13 Scientists are using what exercise to study the effects of zero gravity on astronauts?

a) Cycling b) Jogging c) Rowing

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

14 True or false? Scalloped hammerhead sharks hold their breath to cool off.

True ☐ False ☐

15 Two 59-foot-tall rubber ducks were recently placed in a harbor in which city?

a) Beijing b) Hong Kong c) Shanghai

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

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